



Hundreds of paratroopers, including veterans of the unit which launched the Sinai campaign at the Mitla pass, staged a massive jump at Palmahim yesterday to mark the 30th anniversary of the operation. See story on Page 4. (AFP)

Hospital nurses bow to pressure, return to work

Tepid debate as motions defeated

Submit to threat of court action

By DVORAH GETZLER

Post Knesset Reporter
Four hours of a lack-lustre Knesset debate on motions of no confidence in the government for its handling of the nurses' strike produced only a chorus of condemnation of the nurses' action, and of the government's handling of the pay dispute. The motions were sponsored by Mapam and the Democratic Front for Peace and Equality.

Almost unanimously, MKs echoed the public's growing sentiment: a plague on both your houses, although both no-confidence motions were defeated. The House was all but empty for much of the time.

Chaim Grossman, proposing the Mapam-sponsored motion, said she had come to express the feelings of the sick and aged, the cancer and coronary patients.

At the outset of the strike, everyone had sympathy for the nurses, because their difficult conditions and the psychological and physical stress under which they worked had been widely appreciated. But "enough is enough," said Grossman.

"I fear that we have long since crossed the red line of what can be termed acceptable suffering," she said.

Grossman blamed the govern-

ment for having adopted misguided delaying tactics in dealing with the nurses' complaints. It was this, she said, that had led to the establishment of the hospital nurses' strike committee. The government had destroyed the public health system, and with it all decent standards of behaviour, she said.

But she had equally harsh words for the nurses and called on them to cease their walk-outs forthwith.

Ran Cohen (Citizens Rights Movement), who echoed Grossman's remarks, also attacked the Histadrut labour federation. Had the Histadrut taken up the nurses' case and represented them properly, he said, it would have been forced to develop alternative methods to the walk-out employed by the nurses.

But the brunt of Cohen's attack was turned against Finance Minister Moshe Nissim.

Nissim was the main government speaker yesterday, though newly-appointed Health Minister Shoshana Arbeli-Almoslino summed up.

Nissim insisted that the government had gone to the limit in the concessions it was offering to the nurses. Anything further would burst open the dams of inflation. The

(Continued on back page)

By JUDY SIEGEL

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The hospital nurses last night backed off from a showdown with the government and returned to work minutes before a scheduled labour court hearing on their latest strike. The government had applied to the court for an injunction against the strike, which began at 3 p.m. yesterday and which had been set to last 24 hours.

Observers said last night that it would be nearly impossible for the nurses to resort again to the strike weapon, since they had failed completely to budge the Finance Ministry, even with their most extreme tactics.

The nurses have no choice now but to return to negotiations, hoping that the Treasury will not retreat from earlier proposals to them on wages and working conditions.

Officially, the nurses claimed that they were returning to work immediately in response to a strong appeal by President Herzog earlier in the day. But in fact, the most powerful incentive for their surrender was the threat of the impending court injunction.

The labour court did meet late last night and issued a temporary injunction

barring the nurses from striking, though yesterday's walkout had already been halted.

Finance Minister Moshe Nissim agreed after the strike ended to meet nurses' representatives as soon as possible to continue negotiations.

Nissim called Herzog last night to tell him talks with the nurses would begin early this morning.

Herzog said he welcomed the nurses' decision to return to work.

Earlier in the day, reports that the nurses' sanctions had caused the death of patients produced a dramatic reversal in public opinion against the strikers and made it easier for the government to apply for the injunction.

Despite the nurses' denials that patients had died because of the nurses' repeated walkouts, many, from the president on down, became impatient with the strikers.

Two hours after the nurses began yesterday's walkout, Herzog took advantage of a reception at Beit Hanassi opening the Israel Cancer Society's "Knock on the Door" campaign to call for an end to the strike.

"Enough is enough," Herzog said. "There is a right to strike but no one thought it would be perverted to such an extent."

Herzog said the nurses' consciences (Continued on Page 2, Col. 6)

U.S. pressing for Europe sanctions against Syria

The Reagan administration is still quietly pressing Western Europe to impose economic and diplomatic sanctions against Syria, U.S. officials said yesterday.

In what appeared to be an initial response, the West German government decided to take measures against Syria and terror activities sponsored by it. The steps announced by Bonn included an examination of the activities of Syrian diplomats in Germany.

But the U.S. remains doubtful that its West European allies will accept British proposals for limited economic and diplomatic sanctions against Damascus.

According to U.S. officials, several European countries, including Greece, Spain, Italy, and France, are reluctant to antagonize Damascus despite the evidence of official Syrian involvement in the aborted effort by Nezar Hindawi to blow up an El Al airliner in London last April.

The State Department said yesterday that the U.S. fully agrees with Britain that Syria was involved in the plot. Referring to the evidence presented by British Foreign Minister Sir Geoffrey Howe in Parliament last Friday, spokesman Charles Red-

man said: "We certainly agree with that."

Redman went on to note that Syria has remained on the official U.S. list of states supporting international terrorism for several years and "for some very good reasons."

U.S. officials privately made clear their deep disappointment in the European failure to impose tough sanctions against the Syrians during the just-concluded foreign affairs meeting in Luxembourg.

Related stories
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But the Americans did not want to leave the public impression of a complete disagreement among the allies. U.S. officials believe the Syrians would be pleased by the picture of an isolated Britain, rather than a unified Europe, waging a campaign against the Damascus regime.

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 2)

Hopes fade for a wet winter

By BERNARD JOSEPHS

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Hopes are fading for a wet winter to boost the country's drought-stricken water reserves, the nation's top weatherman warned last night.

At the same time, the head of the Interior Ministry's Environmental Protection Service called for more resources to be directed into improving urban water systems, if taps are not to run dry.

Both men who spoke at a hydraulic conference in Jerusalem, chose a wet evening to issue their dry-as-dust warnings. There were showers all over the country - for the first time in several weeks.

Yehuda Tokati, head of the meteorological service, said that based on rainfall figures for last October and computer forecasts, higher than average rainfall for the next few months seemed to be unlikely.

"The most we can expect is average figures, and we can get 10 per cent less than average," he said.

A spokeswoman for the forecasters reported that weather patterns indicated that there could be a few heavy downpours towards the end of the winter, but they would not make much difference to the overall picture.

The indications were not encouraging, she said.

The predictions are particularly (Continued on back page)

'Prudent liar on a large scale'

Waldheim's ex-aide compiling dossier

By MENACHEM SHALEV

Robert Rhodes James, a senior British Conservative Party MP, is "building up a very considerable dossier" on Austrian Chancellor Kurt Waldheim, whom he describes as "a prudent liar on a very large scale."

Rhodes James, who is attending Ben-Gurion University's Suez crisis retrospective, worked alongside Waldheim for four years at the UN in the Seventies. He was not enamoured with him even before he discovered Waldheim's "ghastly past."

Rhodes James is now endeavouring to direct British efforts against Waldheim. "I've asked my Jewish friends and colleagues to try and leave it to me," he says, "because Waldheim up to now has got away with it by claiming that it's some sort of 'Jewish conspiracy' and he's playing on frankly anti-Semitic and anti-Jewish elements within Austria."

"I worked with Waldheim for four years, I am a senior member of the British parliament and I am not Jewish. You can't laugh that off."

A British television exposé of Waldheim which will have "great

impact" is in preparation says Rhodes James. He adds that a man who was a "key figure when the evidence against Waldheim was being drawn up in 1946 is willing to come out and speak." But, he cautions, "it's not even certain that he will be given permission to say what he knows."

To stir up British public opinion, Rhodes James is focusing his efforts on the Nazis' murder of captured British commando prisoners of war, an act deemed "a major war crime" at the Nuremberg trials. "We know that British commandos who were subsequently executed were interrogated by Waldheim," he says, adding that "Keitel and two of Waldheim's superior officers were executed for this very crime."

Rhodes James says that his former colleagues at the UN are extremely agitated over the revelations on Waldheim. "I have heard comments which are totally unprintable." As a token gesture of their frustration, he says, they have removed Waldheim's picture from the foyer in the secretary-general's office in the UN. "There is no more Waldheim," he says.

Rhodes James has deep suspicions about the Russian "hold" over Waldheim and his nomination by them to the UN's top post. "Waldheim was 'created' by the Russians," he says, "Waldheim was their man." And, he adds, "they must have known about him and he must have known that they knew." He cites Waldheim's success in the Foreign Ministry of Russian-occupied Austria and his 1968 refusal to allow Czechoslovakian refugees into Austria.

Rhodes James is also perplexed by the failure of American, British and Israeli intelligence services to uncover Waldheim's past, especially since "a group of scholars sifting through some documents" eventually exposed him.

"He has constantly lied," Rhodes James says. "First of all he said he was at the University of Vienna. He wasn't there any more than I was. Then he said that he was just an interpreter, and we know he wasn't that. Then, that he was just a junior officer - well that's nonsense."

"Can a man like this be a head of state? If we'd known a fraction of what we know today he never would

have stood a chance of becoming UN secretary-general.

"My friend Jeffrey Archer had to resign in England as deputy chairman of the Conservative Party because of an involvement with a prostitute. That's regarded as an issue demanding resignation. Compared with what Waldheim's done, it is absolutely ludicrous."

Peres: Austrian move unacceptable

SDE BOKER (Itim). - "Austria's move to recall its ambassador is not acceptable to us," Foreign Minister Shimon Peres told reporters yesterday. He was speaking after giving the closing address at a symposium here marking 30 years since the Kadesh operation.

Peres added: "There is an Austrian clock and an Israeli clock and we work according to the Israeli clock. Our clock will determine the appropriate time for our response. No one will decide this in our place."

(See story - Page 2)

Leftists determined to meet Arafat in Romania

By ROY ISACOWITZ

Post Political Reporter

TEL AVIV. - Members of a left-wing delegation planning to meet with PLO leaders in Romania said yesterday that they were determined to go ahead with the meeting, despite a warning by Attorney-General Yosef Harish that they run the risk of prosecution.

Privately, however, several members expressed concern that the press coverage could lead to the aborting of the meeting.

The delegation, numbering some 50 members of Mapam, the Progressive List for Peace, Rakah and a few small peace groups, was invited to Romania by President Nicolai Ceausescu.

The meeting was arranged by the Committee for Israeli-Palestinian Dialogue, a recently-established

umbrella body, with the intention of challenging the new law banning contact with members of organizations deemed hostile to Israel.

The intention is that the Israelis meet with senior PLO officials, according to rumour with chairman Yasser Arafat himself - under the patronage of Ceausescu. The delegation is due to leave next Wednesday.

According to PLP spokesman Haim Hanegbi, the meeting will be held publicly and in the presence of the media, thus allaying Israeli fears that it could pose a danger to the security of the state.

Another member of the delegation, AI Hahadash staff member Yael Lotan, attacked the press for "blowing the issue out of all proportion" before the group even left the country.

Argentine president to visit here

By ROY ISACOWITZ

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. - Argentine President Raul Alfonsin intends to visit Israel in the near future, the Histadrut spokesman said yesterday.

Alfonsin made his intention known in a meeting in Buenos Aires yesterday with Histadrut Secretary-General Yisrael Kessar, currently on a tour of Latin America.

In addition to the president, Kessar also met with Vice-President Victor Martinez and several members of the Argentinean government.

Today Kessar leaves for the U.S., where he is scheduled to meet with Secretary of State George Shultz and AFL-CIO President Lane Kirkland, among others.

Hebrew U. not opening - 'Levy is to blame'

By BERNARD JOSEPHS

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The Hebrew University will not open on Sunday, the start of the new academic year, its top official announced yesterday. And the man to blame, he added, is Housing Minister David Levy.

University President Amnon Pazy said the minister's decision not to allow the debt-ridden institution to raise dormitory fees of thousands of students had left him no choice but to postpone the start of studies.

The gates would stay closed, he warned, until a solution to the problem is found.

Pazy told a press conference: "I cannot take responsibility for the \$1 million or more we will lose if we open the dormitories at their present rent. But on the other hand I cannot open the university with thousands of students having nowhere to stay."

But an official stressed that classes at the university's Rothberg School for Overseas Students will go ahead as scheduled.

Just a few minutes after Pazy's announcement students' union leaders said that they will apply to Jerusalem Magistrates Court today for an order forcing HU to open the dormitories.

Union chairman Uri Ben-Hur said: "Many of the 5,000 people who are relying on these dormitories for a place to live have already paid deposits. We understand the university's financial problem. But we intend to fight against their decision."

The union also called on its mem-

bers to turn up on Sunday for a protest meeting at the Mount Scopus campus.

The row between the university and the housing minister has been simmering for months, since the HU asked Levy to allow an increase in the fees, which were frozen at around \$45 a month in July 1985.

The Treasury indicated that it favoured the rise, averaging NIS 25. But on Tuesday, after meeting with student leaders, Levy decided against it.

Pazy said the university, which has cut spending to the bone, could not afford to continue subsidizing students' accommodation. "If Levy wants to subsidize students, let him. I want them to be charged what it costs to live here. Don't forget that the fee is not rent. It includes all expenses, such as electricity and water."

Even a court order to open the dormitories would not be enough," he said. "We would obey the court (Continued on Page 2, Col. 1)

Ikrit-Biram residents back resettlement scheme

By ELAINE RUTH FLETCHER

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Leaders from the northern Galilee Arab villages of Ikrit and Biram, whose residents were evacuated by the IDF in 1948, yesterday endorsed in principle a proposal for a new settlement for families of the displaced villagers, now scattered across Israel.

The plan, drawn up under the administration of Shimon Peres, also calls for the rebuilding of churches on the original village sites. These

are now surrounded by Jewish settlements.

It's still not clear if the Likud's new Arab affairs adviser, Minister without Portfolio Moshe Arens, will endorse the proposal which was presented to Arab leaders for the first time yesterday by Dr. Yosef Ginat, Arens's senior assistant for Arab affairs. Ginat, who drew up the plan, previously served in the same capacity under former minister without portfolio, Ezer Weizman.

Arens's reaction to the recom-

mendations may serve as the first serious test of his attitude towards the Israeli-Arab community, Arab leaders have said.

While expressing interest in the villagers' situation, Arens has said he still needs more time to study the issue.

Village leaders told Ginat that while they support his plan, they want to live in two separate settlements, and as close as possible to their original lands.

But Ginat said that those issues

would have to be discussed by a planning committee made up of villagers and government officials - if indeed the proposal is approved by Arens and the government.

"You cannot build the infrastructure of a modern settlement on the old site," Ginat said. "The population has already tripled and will be even larger by the year 2000," he explained.

"I proposed to rebuild the churches so that they can be used for community functions, meetings and

festivals," Ginat said. "But as for the villagers, a joint committee would have to decide whether it can be on their land or in another suitable place."

Some Jewish residents in the Upper Galilee have threatened to leave their homes if the Arab evacuees of Ikrit and Biram are allowed to return to their original village lands. The Jewish residents say their settlements already suffer from a shortage of work and farming land.

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The weather at major Swissair destinations

	20.10.86	MIN.	MAX.	
AMSTERDAM	10	7	13	Clear
BRUSSELS	10	7	13	Clear
COLOGNE	10	7	13	Clear
FRANKFURT	10	7	13	Clear
GENEVA	10	7	13	Clear
LONDON	10	7	13	Clear
MADRID	10	7	13	Clear
MUNICH	10	7	13	Clear
PARIS	10	7	13	Clear
ROME	10	7	13	Clear
ST. PAUL	10	7	13	Clear
TORONTO	10	7	13	Clear
ZURICH	10	7	13	Clear

*For the latest weather conditions contact Swissair.

Swissair

THE WEATHER

Forecast: Partly cloudy	Yesterday's	Today's	Max	Min
Jerusalem	16	16-30	28	16
Golan	16	16-30	28	16
Nabatieh	16	16-30	28	16
Safed	16	16-30	28	16
Haifa Port	16	16-30	28	16
Tiberias	16	16-30	28	16
Nazareth	16	16-30	28	16
Afula	16	16-30	28	16
Shomron	16	16-30	28	16
Tel Aviv	16	16-30	28	16
B-G Airport	16	16-30	28	16
Jericho	16	16-30	28	16
Gaza	16	16-30	28	16
Beer Sheva	16	16-30	28	16
Eilat	16	16-30	28	16

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

Italian Ambassador to Israel and Mrs. Giovanni Dominico yesterday visited the Weizmann Institute of Science and were luncheon guests of its president, Prof. Aryeh Dvoretzky. Also present at the luncheon were the senior vice president, Prof. Shmuel Shaltiel, the vice president for academic affairs, Prof. Ze'ev Luz, the vice chairman of the scientific council, Prof. Yehuda Mazur, Prof. Mario Bachi and Dr. Eliana Coccia.

Zionist Executive Chairman Aryeh L. Dulzin hosted a delegation of the European People's Party of the European Parliament, including former Spanish Prime Minister Calvo Sotelo and representatives from seven countries, at Tel Aviv's Carlton Penta Hotel.

Haifa Mayor Aryeh Gurel yesterday gave a reception at City Hall for the mayor of Bremen, Klaus Wedemeyer, and a delegation from that city, the group is in Israel for the annual meeting of the board of the Haifa Culture Fund, to which the German city contributes.

The Dr. Joseph Gaster and Tobe Gaster Building was dedicated yesterday on the Mount Scopus campus of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in the presence of Dr. and Mrs. Gaster, of Beverly Hills, Calif. University Vice-President Bernard Chernik chaired the dedication.

The 70th birthday of Alfred Ball is celebrated today by his loving family and friends.

Editors hope attempts to restrict press will end

TEL AVIV (Itim). - The Editors Committee yesterday expressed the hope that attempts to restrict the Israeli press would stop and agreed to work to improve the professional image of the news media.

In a meeting at Beit Sokolov, the editors expressed their satisfaction that attacks by public figures against the media have quieted recently.

Dov Yudovsky, editor-in-chief of *Yediot Aharanot*, was elected head of the Editors Committee, replacing outgoing head Gershon Schocken.

HEBREW U.

(Continued from Page One)

and let the students in. But that would not mean we would open the university for studies."

Pazy was bitterly critical of the way Levy had handled the affair. He said: "We have been waiting for an answer to our request since July, when the Treasury said they favoured it, and handed it over to the Housing Ministry for a final decision."

The answer finally came on Tuesday in a phone call by one of Levy's aides, Pazy said. But by then he already knew his request had been rejected because it was reported in the press.

Ya'acov Friedler adds: Meanwhile, Haifa University said yesterday that its 6,000 students will begin studying next Sunday. The figure includes 1,700 new students.

The Haifa U. spokeswoman said that the university's first students from the Ethiopian community - seven of them - would be among the incoming students.

The Technion, where studies began last Sunday, enrolled 1,500 new students this year. This is nearly 10 per cent more than last year's freshman class, despite funding cuts, the institute's spokeswoman said. Total Technion enrolment this year is 6,000 undergraduates and 2,000 graduate students.

HOME NEWS

Thousands march in memoriam at Kafr Kassem

Jerusalem Post Staff and Itim

KAFR KASSEM. - Thousands of local residents marched and prayed at this Triangle village yesterday in memory of 49 villagers killed here by Israeli soldiers 30 years ago.

Among the Israelis who participated in the ceremonies was a small delegation of Herut's young guard who came to show solidarity with the villagers' hope that "the State of Israel will take responsibility for what happened here."

The 49 were killed when they returned to the village from the fields on October 29, 1956, unaware that a curfew had been clamped on the village. They were bound and summarily shot. Eleven IDF men

were later tried for the massacre. The unit's commander received a 17-year jail sentence but was released after three years.

Interviews with the 11 soldiers and their wives this year indicated to some people that premier David Ben-Gurion and other leaders were involved in the handling of the affair.

The villagers, deeply wounded by these reports are now asking for a commission of inquiry into the affair.

Village schools were closed yesterday, no one went to work, and residents visited the graves of those who died. Later the cornerstone was laid for a cultural centre to commemorate the 49 victims.

Bethlehem student shot during campus riot

Jerusalem Post Reporter

A student from Bethlehem's Frere University was slightly wounded in the leg yesterday when security forces fired on him during campus riots.

Nearly a dozen other students were arrested.

Students said the disturbances marked the anniversary of the Kafr Kassem killings of Arab villagers by Israeli troops on October 29, 1956.

But security sources said the riots may have been intended as a show of strength following recent campus elections.

An IDF spokesman said that the injured student had left the campus grounds to throw stones at Border Police and soldiers who had gathered outside the university walls.

The spokesman said the security forces ordered the student to stop, and then fired a warning shot into

the air before shooting at his legs.

The Border Police and army troops were first summoned to the scene around noon after students gathered on the campus grounds and began throwing stones and petrol bombs onto the Jerusalem-Hebron road, the spokesman said.

The troops remained outside the campus and fired tear gas grenades and rubber bullets into the crowd of students, the spokesman said.

The students finally began to leave the campus grounds at about 4 p.m., following negotiations between security forces and campus authorities.

Security sources said the riots may have been the byproduct of yesterday's elections in which a coalition of students representing the PLO's Fatah organization and a range of more extreme parties won an overwhelming victory.

Shirman's sister to leave for Israel on Monday

MOSCOW (Reuter). - Inessa Fleurova will leave for Israel on Monday to donate bone marrow to her brother, Michael Shirman, 30, who is suffering from leukemia, relatives said yesterday.

They said she would be emigrating with her family on an Aeroflot flight for Vienna and then travel on to Israel.

Fleurova, 37, a sociologist, got permission in August to go to her brother, but delayed her departure until her physicist husband Viktor Fleurov, 38 and two daughters could accompany her.

The refusal of Fleurov's father to give signed permission for his son to emigrate delayed the family's departure, but Soviet authorities earlier this month waived the requirement, routine in emigration cases.

Austrians angry at Israel over delay in sending envoy

By ILONA HENRY

Jerusalem Post Correspondent

VIENNA. - There is resentment in the press here at Israel's delay in deciding whether to send a new ambassador to Austria and growing support for the decision to recall the Austrian ambassador to Israel as a "measure of reciprocity."

"The Israelis are already taking too long to decide about whether to send another ambassador to Vienna," wrote journalist Hans Rauscher in yesterday's *Kurier*. "They constantly give the impression that they are watching Austria after Kurt Waldheim's election as president as a

country on probation." This is an affront to Austrian self respect."

Leading TV personality Hugo Portisch appealed to all political parties not to use the issue in the upcoming parliamentary elections. He said that the ruling Socialist party should show prudence and refrain from scoring points with this topic. "Such an action could be welcomed by those 10 to 15 per cent of hard-core anti-Semites we really do have."

The Austrians did not express similar outrage over the delay by the U.S. government to appoint a new ambassador after the death of the American ambassador in 1982.

Vichy official charged for deporting Jews

BORDEAUX (AP). - A French court yesterday charged Jean Legay, deputy police chief of the World War II Vichy government, with crimes against humanity for his alleged role in deporting Jews from Bordeaux.

Legay, 77, was charged in 1979 with crimes against humanity for his role in the deportation of Jews from the Paris region in July 1942, but the case has not come to trial.

The latest charge against Legay came as Judge Jean-Claude Nicod was investigating the wartime activities of Maurice Papon, an official of

the Gironde region under the Vichy government who has twice been charged with crimes against humanity.

Court officials would not divulge details of the investigation.

However, *The Liberation* newspaper reported yesterday that Papon, with Legay's reported accord, allegedly organized the deportation on August 26, 1942, of 444 Jews to Drancy, a housing development north of Paris then used as a transit camp for Jews being deported to Auschwitz.

SANCTIONS

(Continued from Page One)

Thus, White House spokesman Larry Speakes said the administration did not necessarily regard the Luxembourg meeting as a failure. "It was a preliminary meeting," he said. "We hope to see an escalation of the allied stand against terrorism."

Speakes refused to outline what additional steps the U.S. might take against Syria. He simply spoke of a "range of options."

Bonn said that its measures against Syria had been agreed on in principle by 11 of the 12 EC members at the Luxembourg meeting, with only Greece dissenting. But the 11 had not made a final decision for lack of time, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

Other steps to be taken by West Germany include: Examining the activities of Syrian Arab Airways employees and checking whether the airline's German offices are over-staffed; refusing entry to high-ranking Syrian visitors, and joining an EC ban on selling arms to Damascus. But a spokesman stressed that West Germany has already refrained from weapons sales to Damascus.

The West German ambassador in Damascus is to finish his tour of duty in a few weeks. Bonn will decide whether to replace him only after the

trial of Hindawi's brother on charges of bombing an Arab organization in West Berlin. The possible role of Syria in the bombing is expected to be clarified at the trial.

The West German cabinet yesterday also approved new anti-terrorist legislation whose centerpiece is a programme to encourage terrorists to turn prosecution witness and testify against fellow gang members.

Lebanon is to handle Syrian interests in Britain following London's severing of ties with Damascus. It was decided yesterday. But Syria has yet to agree on a representative for British interests after the Damascus embassy closes on Friday.

In a separate development, the Irish Republic was last night considering breaking ties with Libya, after Col. Muammar Gaddafi spelt out his support for the Irish Republican Army.

Gaddafi, in an interview broadcast on Irish television yesterday, said that "we must help as much as we can any liberation movement fighting against colonialism," and that the IRA was fighting "the just cause against British colonialism in Northern Ireland." Gaddafi laughed when asked if he provided arms and money for the IRA, replying that "generally we support the Irish cause."



A patient is comforted during the nurses' walkout yesterday.

(IIPA)

The power of kangaroo courts

By YORAM GAZIT

TEL AVIV. - The murder of an Arab prisoner in Ayalon Prison this week has again indicated that kangaroo courts of security prisoners can decide whether their fellow inmates live or die.

Basam Ali-Sarim, 18, of Kalkiya was suffocated in the Ayalon prison Tuesday night, allegedly by two inmates who had been members of a terrorist organization.

Prison sources said his alleged murderers suspected him of cooperating with Israeli intelligence.

The two inmates who admitted to the murder are Osama Teba Halima, 28, from East Jerusalem, serving a 20-year sentence, and Omar Mahmoud Kasem, 45, from Sheikh

Jarrah, serving a life sentence.

They are alleged to have committed the murder at 9.25 p.m., a time when prisoners are allowed to walk freely among the cells and watch television in their club.

Last Friday night six security prisoners set themselves alight in the Ashkelon prison. According to prison sources they acted under pressure from their fellow inmates who suspected them of collaborating with the authorities.

Four of the prisoners were transferred to Ayalon prison following treatment at Beersheba's Soroka Hospital. Two are still hospitalized and under guard.

In another incident on September 14 the leader of a Communist orga-

nization allegedly murdered his two cell mates, also on suspicion of their cooperating with the authorities.

The alleged murderer, a Kaikilya resident, called the warden at 5 a.m. and told him to "pick up the dead dogs." All three belonged to the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

"It is very difficult to guard an inmate's life after his verdict has been handed down by the prison's kangaroo court," a prison source told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday.

The source said that after the verdict, someone was chosen to execute it. "After an inmate is selected it is almost impossible for him to refuse without endangering his own life," the source concluded.

'Who's who' in Israel crowds Abie's wedding

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. - A "Who's Who" of Israeli society - from statesmen to Bohemian singers and society ladies - crowded into the Tel Aviv Hilton ballroom last night to witness the marriage of Peacemaker owner Abie Nathan to Clarita Sredni, of Colombia, after a whirlwind romance and engagement.

Some 800 guests, including cabinet ministers, Knesset Members and representatives of the theatre, arts and entertainment world were guests at the wedding. The invitations specifically asked them not to bring gifts.

Ministers Ariel Sharon, Moshe Katsav and Yitzhak Moda'i, MKs Yossi Sarid, Shulamit Aloni, Dan Tichon, as well as Rafi Nelson, Egyptian ambassador Mohammed Bassiouny, Aryeh Dulzin, and Haim

Topol were among the famous faces at the wedding.

Nathan, a confirmed divorcee for 33 years, and one of Israel's most colourful social figures, was led smiling sheepishly along the red carpet to the huppah. He was followed by Clarita in a tight-fitting white dress glittering with diamond-like drops.

"It's strange to say 'taking the wife' when it concerns Nathan," Rabbi Lau said under the canopy. "Because this is the first time I've seen Nathan take anything. He always gives."

After the ceremony, the loudspeakers, which had played South American songs in honour of the bride, burst into "and I love you so," the song which for many years opened Nathan's evening programme of love songs on his Voice of Peace radio station.

'Laviv is broken and finished'

Suspended sentence given journalist for extortion

TEL AVIV (Itim). - Journalist Yigal Laviv yesterday received a one-year suspended sentence for extortion.

District Court Judge Uri Strossman said in his verdict that while for many people a suspended sentence is a sign of innocence, in the circles in which Laviv travels, the conviction is itself a punishment.

Strossman added that extortion is not widespread among journalists, and he therefore saw no need to make an example of Laviv.

The district attorney had asked for a prison sentence on the grounds that spreading disinformation misleads the nation and that journalists wield "life and death" power in their words.

"The man made a living by extorting from the subjects he wrote about," said Aharon Shadar. "After he was indicted he appeared on television and boasted about his deeds. The public must be protected from such extortion."

Flatto-Sharon yesterday filed a claim against Laviv, seeking \$12,175 in damages. The sum includes the original \$3,500 that Laviv took in 1975, and dollar-linked interest.

MUSIC REVIEW

Dignified and moving benefit

Goodwill, warmth and genuine concern were evoked at the capital's Henry Crown Hall last night. The concert for the benefit of prisoners of Zion, sponsored by the Soviet Jewry Education and Information Centre, turned out to be a dignified and moving affair. There were speeches - rather short and to the point - by Josef Mendeleich, the SJEIC chairman, and by Minister-without-Portfolio Moshe Arens (the absence of the third speaker, Absorption Minister Ya'acov Tsur, remained unexplained). There were also readings from letters by prisoners of Zion.

The Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra and conductor Uri Segal contributed their services. (Given the number of Russian immigrants in Israel's musical bodies, it is surprising no other orchestra has done it so far.) *Farfare to Israel* by Paul Ben-Haim received an involved and powerful rendition; the *Adagio* from Mahler's Fifth symphony remained unsettled.

Violinist Albert Markov, originally from Russia and now living in the U.S., played the Second Concerto by ragamuffin with stupendous technical skill. From an instrumental viewpoint, his rendition was awe-inspiring. Yet, the dead-pan seriousness with which he ploughed through the dazzling fireworks effectively devalued the music any charm.

Markov's artistic qualities aside, however, this was one occasion on which an Israeli artist should have performed.

ELI KAREV

Hammer lashed for boycott of Reform

By ASHER WALLFISH

Post Knesset Correspondent

Alignment MK Rabbi Menachem Hacohen yesterday criticized Religious Affairs Minister Zevulun Hammer for declining to attend any of next week's events of the Reform movement connected with the dedication of the Hebrew Union College world centre in Jerusalem.

The Alignment rabbi said that while Hammer as a leader of the National Religious Party would be fully understood if he boycotted the Reform celebrations, as Religious Affairs Minister of the state of Israel, it was his function to put an appearance at one or other of the events.

Hacohen said that his own biblical status could be advanced as grounds for his not attending. However, he would go to the inauguration of the centre's Ayalon and Zalman Abramov library in the wake of his promise to the former Liberal Zalman Abramov, a personal friend.

"I don't know what Hammer is afraid of," Hacohen said. "If he doesn't attend any of the events, he'll be pulled first one way and then the other, like a pendulum, for the rest of his career. But if he attends just once, he'll have settled the issue and he can forget about it."

Hammer's predecessor at the Religious Affairs Ministry, Yosef Burg, told *The Post* that when he was invited to a degree award ceremony for the late David Ben-Gurion by the conservative (Masoreti) movement, he went along.

Hacohen said: "Hammer's precursors attended affairs given by Christians and Kara'ites. So why not Reform Jews?"

Police inquiry into Abergil continuing

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The police are continuing their investigation into the complaint of Rabbi Levi Weizman-Kelman, leader of the Reform congregation Kol Haneshama in Jerusalem, against Rabbi Eliahu Abergil, who last week led a group that disrupted Shmita Tora services at the Reform congregation. *The Jerusalem Post* learned last night.

The police have the prerogative of deciding whether to investigate Rabbi Weizman-Kelman's original complaint even though he has withdrawn this complaint against Rabbi Abergil, a police spokesman reportedly said.

Rabbi Weizman-Kelman has received a telegram of support from the Nobel Peace Prize laureate Elie Wiesel. "I am always with you wherever you are and whatever you are doing, for I know that you are always inspired by the deepest thirst for *Ahava Yisrael* (love of Israel)," Wiesel said.

Liver patients in 'critical' condition

By YA'ACOV FRIEDLER

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. - Doctors at Rambam Hospital yesterday gave a gloomy report on the progress of the country's two liver transplant patients.

Mira Shichman, who had liver transplant surgery 10 days ago, was operated on again on Tuesday night to stop bleeding of the lower gall. Her condition was described as "critical," but with good functioning of her liver, heart and lungs. The hemorrhage was not connected to the transplant, but was caused by her original liver condition. Dr. Arie Sattinger, the hospital's acting director, announced.

Eliahu Schreiber was also reported to be in "critical" condition following two operations.

Contempt of court claim against court workers

The attorney-general is to file a contempt of court claim in the Jerusalem Labour Court today against court workers who imposed work sanctions yesterday.

Court workers throughout the country handled only urgent cases, such as the release of prisoners and support payments to wives, in this bid for higher wages.

The labour court yesterday ruled that an injunction issued in August preventing court workers from hampering court proceedings was still in force.

The court workers' leader, Shmuel Levi, said last night that the workers decided to impose sanctions in spite of the court order because of humiliating wages and inhuman work conditions. (Itim)

We mourn the passing of
GLADYS NAILAND
Our condolences to the family

Chanut B'Kfar
and Moshav Bet-Herut

Lebanese leftists set up force to counter Arafat

BEIRUT (AP). — Syrian-backed leftist militia leaders started forming a joint force yesterday to curb the growing strength of PLO chairman Yasser Arafat and his campaign to rebuild his one-time power base in South Lebanon.

Some 400 militiamen from four leftist parties have so far been recruited for the force which is expected to deploy in the south later this week, militia sources reported. Druse warlord Walid Jumblatt, named as commander of the new force, has instructed his military lieutenants to select men "with utmost urgency" from the Moslem and leftist militias for the planned 2,500-strong contingent, militia spokesmen reported.

The move followed a dramatic comeback in the south by Arafat's fighters four years after they were driven out of the region in Israel's 1982 invasion.

Jumblatt told a news conference at his West Beirut home yesterday that the new force's task was to block the Palestinians expanding their military strength outside their refugee camp bases.

"We reject any Palestinian expansion in Sidon or elsewhere in Lebanon... to use the situation for political and military provocations against nationalist forces and against Syria," Jumblatt said.

Jumblatt, who has been sympathetic to the Palestinians in the past, warned that Arafat's return would "expose Lebanon and Syria to new Israeli military adventures, which we don't accept."

UN and Palestinian sources say an estimated 3,500 hardcore terrorists have filtered back to Beirut, Sidon and Tyre in the last 16 months.

Sources close to Jumblatt said the joint force would be made up of men from his own Progressive Socialist Party, the Lebanese Communist Party, the Syrian Social Nationalist Party and the Lebanese branch of Syria's Ba'ath Party.

Jumblatt said the final size of the force would be determined by developments in Sidon.

Jumblatt, Communist leader Georges Hawi and Ba'ath leader Assem Kanso later drove to Sidon to discuss the force's deployment with regional commanders, Beirut Radio stations reported.

Jumblatt said the force would also safeguard the coastal highway linking Beirut with Sidon and the south.



Four masked Fatah gunmen observe the deployment of a buffer force yesterday outside the Ain Hiltwe refugee camp in Sidon following overnight clashes with Amal Shi'ite militiamen. (AFP telephoto)

FOREIGN NEWS IN BRIEF

German who swindled Saudi jailed 6½ years

KOBLENZ (Reuters). — A former West German building magnate who defrauded a leading Saudi Arabian shareholder was jailed yesterday for 6½ years and fined 90,000 marks (\$45,000) for fraud, ending one of the country's biggest economic crime cases.

The Koblenz High Court found that Horst Dieter Esch, 43, former head of the IBH Holding AG Construction Equipment Company which collapsed three years ago, had concealed the fact that his firm was bankrupt and had defrauded Saudi shareholder Sheikh Saleh Kamel out of about 100 million marks (\$50m.).

Esch has been in jail since 1984, when he was sentenced to 3½ years imprisonment for offences involving an IBH subsidiary, Wibau AG.

8,000-year-old human brain tissue found

LONDON (Reuters). — Archaeologists have found soft tissue from an 8,000-year-old human brain in a Florida peat bog. *Nature* magazine reported. The find, at Windover, central Florida, was the oldest known example of brain tissue. The British-based scientific weekly said. Archaeologists also found bone "strikingly well preserved" from at least 40 individuals of both sexes and various ages, dating back 7,790-8,290 years.

Aussie deportation row

CANBERRA (AFP). — The government has rejected calls by the opposition Liberal-National coalition for the deportation of a U.S. citizen with alleged terrorist links, an official spokesman confirmed yesterday.

An opposition foreign affairs spokesman said that the entry into Australia of U.S. Black Muslim Abdul Akbar Muhammad, a personal friend of Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi, "was clearly a mistake which only his immediate expulsion could remedy."

Sterilization campaign

NEW DELHI (AFP). — Family planners are being offered a colour television for every 100 people they persuade to undergo sterilization in Uttar Pradesh, the Press Trust of India reported yesterday. The agency reported that the local government wants 650,000 sterilizations carried out by next May. Other incentives include a moped for 75 sterilizations and a black and white television for 45.

5 Moscow Jews freed

WARSAW (AP). — Five Soviet Jews arrested outside the main Moscow synagogue on Saturday were released by Soviet authorities after officials of the World Jewish Congress intervened on their behalf, the executive director of the congress said yesterday. The five were part of a crowd of Moscow Jews that gathered at the synagogue during an evening Simhat Torah celebration that was joined by Elie Wiesel, winner of the 1986 Nobel Peace prize.

Tamil sever links

COLOMBO (AFP). — Tamil separatists have blasted a telecommunications exchange and entirely severed links with Sri Lanka's north-eastern Trincomalee district, government officials said yesterday.

PAKISTAN. — An indefinite curfew was clamped yesterday on parts of the southwestern Pakistani town of Quetta after factional clashes in which four people died and 25 were seriously injured.

'Le Monde' reports:

French conclude truce deal with Paris bombers

PARIS (AFP). — The French government, through the intermediary of Algeria and Syria, recently concluded a truce with those suspected of responsibility for last September's terrorist attacks in Paris, the daily *Le Monde* reported yesterday.

The truce, it said, was in exchange for assurances that the forthcoming trial of Georges Ibrahim Abdallah, presumed head of the Lebanese Armed Revolutionary Faction (Larf), "might turn out in his favour" if there are no more terrorist attacks in France before next February, the date when Abdallah goes on trial.

Abdallah, currently serving a four-year prison term for illegal possession of arms and explosives, has been indicted as an accomplice in two Paris assassinations claimed by Larf, those of U.S. military attaché Charles Ray and Israeli diplomat Ya'acov Barsimantov.

Le Monde said the "messengers" of the truce "recently concluded with the September bombers" were "the Syrian secret service, but also with an Algerian general, Lakhal Ayad, chief of military security."

The newspaper said the offer was accompanied by a threat, in the form of "an agreement — a contract — concluded in early October in Paris with Elie Hobeika, former head of the Lebanese Forces, now an ally of the Syrians, under which he would conduct physical reprisals against Larf and the Abdallah clan if the truce was not respected."

Hobeika, "who now lives in Damascus," *Le Monde* said, flew into Paris in the second week of October in the private aircraft of Lebanese millionaire Michel Murr. The French officials met by Hobeika "asked him to be ready to eliminate

certain Larf members if the terror attacks resumed."

Meanwhile, it said, the Syrian secret service had also threatened Larf with reprisals if the attacks continued and Algeria had sent its military security chief, General Ayad, to Lebanon.

Algerian aid had been "bargained" in return for a crackdown in France on opponents of the Algerian government, the newspaper said, and recalled the recent arrests of 13 supporters of former President Ahmed Ben Bella. The 13, first threatened with expulsion from France, were put under house arrest.

As for Syria and "its Lebanese allies," the newspaper said, "in all probability" the tradeoff was "money and weapons," as the London *Sunday Times* and other newspapers have claimed.

French, Saudis in \$2b. weapons deal

LONDON. — France is negotiating a series of arms contracts with Saudi Arabia totalling \$2 billion, the *Financial Times* reported yesterday.

These negotiations were expected to be at the centre of the official visit to France this week of Saudi Interior Minister Prince Nayif bin Abd el-Aziz Saud.

He was scheduled to have talks with President Francois Mitterrand and Prime Minister Jacques Chirac, as well as other senior ministers and

leading French industrialists.

Meanwhile, it was announced in Paris yesterday that France and Iran have settled a dispute over repayment of a \$1b. loan, which had been a major block to improving their relations.

The Foreign Ministry said that negotiations on the issue have been in progress for months, with French officials repeatedly voicing the hope that if an agreement were reached, Iran would use its influence to help free French hostages held by pro-

Iranian Shi'ite Moslem militants in Lebanon.

A foreign ministry spokesman said talks between delegations this week in Paris resulted in both sides initialling the text of an agreement on the dispute.

He provided no details of the settlement, which he said would be signed later by leaders of the two countries.

The agreement removes a major barrier to normal relations between Paris and Tehran. (AFP, AP)

Bonn takes steps against Syria

BONN (AFP). — West Germany yesterday said it would take three measures against Syria as a symbol of solidarity with Great Britain, which last Friday accused Damascus of terrorist ties and broke off diplomatic relations.

Government spokesman Friedhelm Ost said high-level Syrian official visits to West Germany would be curtailed until further notice.

He said Syrian embassy personnel would be closely watched for evidence of non-diplomatic activity.

And he said Syrian airline personnel and flights through West Germany would be reduced if proven to be in violation of laws.

The measures had been considered by the 12-nation European Economic Community (EEC), but were not adopted because of dissent.

Ost said Bonn did not for the moment intend to break ties with Damascus.

But he said that option was being held in abeyance pending the outcome of the trial in West Berlin of Ahmed Hasi, accused in an attack on a German-Arab society in that city on March 30.

Hasi is the brother of Nezar Hindawi, sentenced to 45 years in prison by a London court last Friday for an attempt to plant a bomb on an Israeli airline jet.

Following that trial, London said

it had solid proof of Syrian involvement in the bomb plot.

Bonn will await the outcome of the Ahmed Hasi trial before deciding whether to replace its ambassador to Syria, Herbert Woeckel, due to end his posting in Damascus in the coming weeks in the framework of a regular "diplomatic rotation," Ost said.

West German Foreign Ministry spokesman Jurgen Chrobog, asked about the proof London had of Syrian involvement in the El Al bomb plot, said secretary of State Lutz Stavenhagen had seen the evidence when it was presented to the EEC in Luxembourg and had termed it "weighty."

Scientists urge \$1b. campaign against Aids

WASHINGTON (AP). — The government must spearhead a billion-dollar research and information programme about Aids to prevent a national health catastrophe, says a major study released yesterday.

The National Academy of Sciences, in what it termed the most comprehensive study of the Aids crisis to date, said the urgency of the epidemic requires "perhaps the most wide-ranging and intensive efforts ever made against an infectious disease."

In a report entitled *Confronting Aids*, an expert panel assembled by the academy said a coordinated programme against Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome would cost \$2 billion a year by the end of the decade.

It said half of this money, most of which should come from federal funds, should be devoted to research into understanding, preventing and treating the disease and the rest to public health and education programmes aimed at containing its spread.

Aids has been diagnosed in more than 26,000 Americans to date, 15,000 of whom have died.

While 70 per cent of the victims have been male homosexuals, others at high risk of the disease are intravenous drug abusers who share needles contaminated with the Aids virus, their sex partners and infants of infected mothers.

The panel said it agreed with U.S. Public Health Service estimates that more than 1 million people in this country are infected with the casual virus and that by 1991, more than 179,000 deaths from Aids could be expected.

It also noted that the number of heterosexual cases was rising and concurred with estimates that there could be 7,000 such cases by 1991, compared with 1,100 cases today.

MIDDLE EAST BRIEFS

Mrs. Sadat's lectures cost college \$313,000

COLUMBIA, South Carolina (AP). — The University of South Carolina spent about \$313,000 to have the widow of slain Egyptian president Anwar Sadat lecture and teach one class for three semesters, school president James Holderman revealed yesterday.

Mrs. Sadat received \$7,000 for lecturing in fall 1984, \$50,000 to teach a course in spring 1985 and \$75,000 each in fall 1985 and spring 1986 for teaching the same class, he said. The university also paid travel and lodging expenses.

Evidence on Abbas too little, too late

GENOA (Reuters). — Palestinian terrorist leader Abu Abbas, the man found guilty of masterminding the hijack of the cruise ship *Achille Lauro*, was freed by Italy last year because there were no grounds at the time for suspecting he was involved, a court document said.

A report detailing why a Genoa court last July sentenced the Palestinian Liberation Front leader and two of his lieutenants to life imprisonment in their absence said Abbas's complicity emerged only after he was allowed to leave Italy.

PLO wants observer status at Red Cross

GENEVA (AFP). — The Palestine Liberation Organization has requested observer status at the International Red Cross conference under way here, Palestinian sources said yesterday.

The PLO letter of application is currently at the conference office, which is said to be looking for a way of dealing with the request without setting off a new row after that caused by the expulsion of a South African delegation last Saturday.

Western nations have deep reservations about the PLO request.



Kathrine, wife of British Embassy counsellor Rob Young, assists her daughter Juliette in last-minute packing. British Embassy staff, ordered by Syria to leave in seven days in response to expulsion of Syrian diplomats from London, are to fly home tomorrow. (Reuters telephoto)

Ireland lambasts Gaddafi, studies breaking of ties

DUBLIN (Reuters). — Ireland may consider breaking diplomatic relations with Libya if it continues to support the outlawed Irish Republican Army (IRA), Foreign Minister Peter Barry said yesterday.

Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi expressed support for the IRA in an interview with Irish Television, saying: "We are obliged to support such a cause and we think it is a just one."

Barry said he had instructed his ambassador in Rome, who is also accredited to Tripoli, to fly to Libya to protest in the strongest possible manner.

Asked by Irish Radio if Dublin would consider breaking diplomatic relations, Barry said: "That is the very final step which we wouldn't like to take at this stage. But yes, if this sort of support for the IRA, this moral support for the IRA doesn't stop, then we would have to consider that very seriously."

Soviet official: Emigration visa policy revamped

MOSCOW (AP). — The Soviet Union is revamping the administration of its emigration policy and is dealing with visa applications and other human rights questions "in a more humane spirit," a senior Soviet official said yesterday.

But Yuri Kashlev, head of the Foreign Ministry's recently created Humanitarian and Cultural Relations Department, didn't specify how Soviet emigration policy might be affected or say whether the Kremlin would make it easier for would-be emigres to leave.

Kashlev, who will head the Soviet delegation to next month's Vienna conference on European Security, insisted at a news conference that Soviet officials have always dealt humanely with human rights questions.

"In the last year, some specific steps have been taken... we have done a lot to realign our administrative measures

Argentine atrocities

BUENOS AIRES (AP). — The prosecution here has called for life prison terms for retired army-general Ramon Camps and former police chief Miguel Etchecolatz accused of overseeing a state terror campaign in which hundreds of people were kidnapped, tortured and summarily executed.

What did Reagan tell Gorbachev?

Post-summit confusion on wisdom of nuclear cuts

WASHINGTON. — A White House acknowledgment that President Reagan may have endorsed the idea of total nuclear disarmament at his summit with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev has fuelled U.S. and Western doubts about the wisdom of dramatic nuclear cuts.

"Mr. Reagan seems to have accepted positions that agitate his own advisers and allies," *The New York Times* said Tuesday in an editorial on the confusion over just what arms cuts the president did agree on in his Iceland meeting with Gorbachev.

In a similar vein, *The Washington Post* carried a cartoon of Reagan reporting on the summit, saying: "You can imagine my surprise when I found out what we had been talking about."

The press comments echo thinking among many U.S. analysts and West European diplo-

mats assessing administration accounts of the Reykjavik understandings, which were aborted in a dispute over Reagan's "Star Wars" missile defence programme.

The latest phase of post-summit quarrelling between the superpowers reached a peak Monday when Gorbachev accused Washington of grossly misrepresenting what the leaders tentatively agreed upon and the White House accused Moscow of waging a propaganda campaign.

At the same time, White House spokesman Larry Speakes conceded that Reagan "may have" used the words attributed to him by Moscow in an account issued on Saturday.

The main point in dispute is whether Reagan consented, as Gorbachev maintains, to scrap all strategic (long-range) nuclear weapons in a decade or limited his offer to ballistic missiles. On Saturday, the Kremlin went even further

than Gorbachev's own account, first aired in a television address last Wednesday. A deputy foreign minister quoted Reagan as agreeing to eliminate not just strategic but all nuclear arms.

The White House insists that Reagan made clear to Gorbachev in writing that while he shared the long-term goal of scrapping nuclear weapons, he sought only to eliminate ballistic missiles — those which leave the atmosphere when they are fired — in the 10-year period.

This would leave only nuclear and low-flying cruise missiles as a nuclear deterrent.

The two leaders agreed first on a 50 per cent cut in all strategic weapons in five years and the elimination of intermediate-range "Euro-missiles." But the whole deal fell through when Reagan refused to accede to Gorbachev's demand to limit missile defence research to the laboratory.

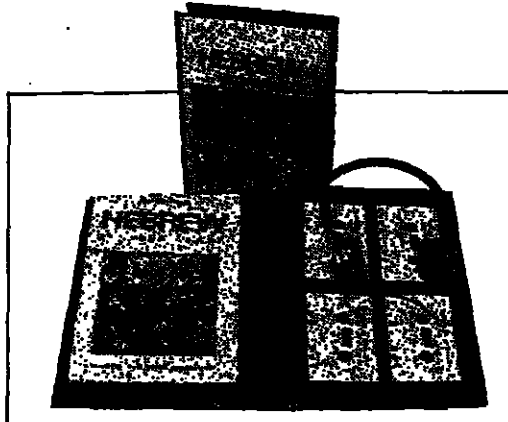
Meanwhile, in London, Defence Secretary

George Younger said Tuesday, after analyzing the Reykjavik superpower summit that, he thinks Moscow had a "trick" game plan and President Reagan was "absolutely right" not to give up his Star Wars programme.

Speaking to correspondents Younger said Britain had been "very baffled" at first about what lay behind the sudden Soviet invitation to the meeting in Iceland, but had decided after two weeks' reflection that Moscow's real objective was to release Gorbachev from his commitment to a summit meeting in the U.S. at which he could not be assured of a favourable outcome.

One result of the October 11-12 summit was the failure to set a date or agenda for a Reagan-Gorbachev meeting in the U.S., even though the two leaders had agreed to such a meeting when they held their "get-acquainted" summit a year ago in Geneva. (Reuters, AP)

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Jump commemorates Mitla Pass operation

Post Defence Reporter
Some 440 paratroopers, IDF officers and former officers parachuted over the Palmahim coast yesterday. The jump commemorated the parachuting over the Mitla Pass 30 years ago that signalled the beginning of the Sinai Campaign.

One hundred and ten of those participating yesterday were veteran paratroopers who had taken part in the original operation.

The veterans had prepared for this event for weeks. Although some have been parachuting on and off over the years, all were subjected to obligatory ground exercises before jumping, led by paratroop instructors young enough to be their grandsons.

They were then sent off on four old Dakota DC-3 planes, identical to those used in the Mitla Pass Campaign. The planes had been revamped by the army especially for yesterday's commemoration. Their families watched their progress, not without concern, from the ground.

Other paratroopers and army officers then jumped from modern planes.

Fifty-nine-year-old Tat Aluf (res.) Arye Biro, who has suffered three heart attacks since his paratrooping days, was among the veterans of the Mitla Pass attack. When he heard of the planned reconstruction of the attack, he asked to participate, even though no doctor was willing to approve this. After yesterday's jump he had some words for those doctors of small faith.

MK Rafael Eitan (Tehiya), commander of the paratroopers' brigade in 1956, was the first to jump yesterday, just as he had been 30 years ago.



Veterans who parachuted in the Mitla Pass campaign 30 years ago prepare for their commemorative jumps at Palmahim yesterday. (Left to right) Rav-Aluf Rafael Eitan; 'Katsche' and his son; Tal-Aluf Efraim Hiram, and Aluf-Mishne Arye Biro. (Hanoach Guttmann)

"It's good to recall that jump, which I know today was more of a political than a military necessity," he said. "Parachuting is part of the process that moulds a soldier's character."

The operation was later revealed to have been a ploy agreed upon by Israel, France and Britain.

Another veteran, Aluf-Mishne Katsche yesterday paratrooped with his son, while Tat Aluf Efraim Hiram wanted to jump with his old buddies.

Hiram said: "On board the plane today I thought about the same things that passed through my mind 30 years ago. Unfortunately, not all those who were with us then are here today. Many were hurt and killed in subsequent wars, but nonetheless parachuting today was a light-hearted event."

"What we talked about back then was how surprised the Egyptians would be when we descend upon them," he added.

Thirty years ago, the Egyptians were indeed shocked. In the battles

that followed the parachuting not all went smoothly.

Of the 400 paratroopers and additional brigade that arrived on land, some 80 Israeli soldiers died before victory.

Rav Aluf Moshe Levy, who had participated in the 1956 operation, did not jump yesterday. "I wanted to jump very much, but not everything one wants is possible," was all he would say.

Industry and Trade Minister Ariel Sharon, who was then the paratroopers' division commander, did

not jump yesterday but was on hand to greet those who did.

Hana Yofet, who as a medic nursed the injured of the Mitla battle and on Sri Lanka, the tendency is to address one another in terms of group identification, Hofman said.

"Two individuals may start to haggle over the price of eggs, but soon retreat into acrimonious accusations of 'you people' doing things to 'us people,'" he noted, citing foreign studies.

The Beit Hagefen meetings are strictly social and non-political, and such encounters "are not expected to solve group problems. But they will hopefully reduce stereotyping, misunderstandings and the hostility that goes with estrangement," he said.

To really blur the distinction between "us" and "them," group identity must be transcended, he said. "Just as Americans are Americans first, before identifying as

Arab-Jewish meetings

Blurring 'us' and 'them'

By YA'ACOV FRIEDLER
HAIFA. - Meetings between Arab and Jewish high-school pupils can ease the way to interpersonal relations, but they have no measured effect on group-level issues, according to Prof. John Hofman of Haifa University's Psychology Department. He reached this conclusion after studying such meetings at the Beit Hagefen Arab-Jewish Centre in Haifa.

Not only in Israel, but in areas of conflict like Northern Ireland, Lebanon and Sri Lanka, the tendency is to address one another in terms of group identification, Hofman said.

"Two individuals may start to haggle over the price of eggs, but soon retreat into acrimonious accusations of 'you people' doing things to 'us people,'" he noted, citing foreign studies.

The Beit Hagefen meetings are strictly social and non-political, and such encounters "are not expected to solve group problems. But they will hopefully reduce stereotyping, misunderstandings and the hostility that goes with estrangement," he said.

To really blur the distinction between "us" and "them," group identity must be transcended, he said. "Just as Americans are Americans first, before identifying as

members of specific ethnic or religious groups, Israelis must learn to be Israelis before being Jews, Arabs, or anything else."

Hofman's study involved 1,000 participants and showed that the Jewish youths showed a greater readiness to associate with Arab peers, as a result of the meetings, while the Arabs' readiness had been high throughout.

The results were not dramatic, but encouraging. However, they had no appreciable effect on non-social issues, such as attitudes towards democracy or co-existence.

Divisive issues, like questions of land appropriation, unequal access to economic and political resources and references to the PLO were assiduously avoided, he said.

But when they did come up, Hofman found that both Jews and Arabs quickly reverted to the position of representing their own group. "The tender shoots of empathy, so recently acquired, wilted away, at least for the moment."

Nevertheless, educators should not shy away from group encounters that might be interpreted as political because the progress that could be made by ignoring the essentially political character of group relations was "limited at best," Hofman concluded.

Two girls injured by hit-and-run drivers

JABALIYA (Itim). - Two girls were seriously injured at this Gaza Strip refugee camp yesterday in separate hit-and-run accidents.

A two-year-old girl was hit by a car while crossing a street at 11 a.m. In

the afternoon a five-year-old girl was hit by a truck, also while crossing a street.

Police are trying to locate the drivers of the two vehicles.



Catharina "Toto" Karthaus-van Halteren (left) and Miriam Sofer (née Neubauer), whose life she saved during WWII, relax in Jerusalem after yesterday's ceremony honouring Karthaus. (David Brauner)

At Yad Vashem ceremony

Righteous Gentile reunited with woman she saved 43 years ago

By ERNIE MEYER
Jerusalem Post Reporter

A Dutch woman was honoured as a Righteous Gentile at Yad Vashem on Tuesday and reunited with the Jewish woman she had sheltered for a year.

Catharina "Toto" Karthaus-van Halteren did not know the fate of woman she saved, Miriam Neubauer, for 40 years. Karthaus, now 68, was a young married woman with two children in Nijmegen, when she took in Neubauer towards the end of 1943. Rather than hiding the 20-year-old German refugee in her attic, she provided her with "Aryan" papers and presented her as a nanny.

In taking this courageous step, Karthaus was following in the tradition of her father, George van Halteren, who since 1938 had helped more than 100 German and Dutch Jews in various ways.

"If my father had not died of natural causes in 1943, he would certainly have been arrested, because the Gestapo was on his trail," Catharina Karthaus told *The Jerusalem Post*. The Gestapo arrived at his door the day after he died and found him in his coffin, she related.

Once the family had succeeded in fleeing from the heavy fighting around the bridge at Nijmegen, Neubauer begged them to drop her alias and use her real name. Despite the war conditions, Neubauer, who

was from a religious family, kept the fast of Yom Kippur, her only link with Judaism during that time.

Robert, Neubauer's four-year-old charge, later became a simultaneous interpreter at the EEC headquarters in Brussels. There he became friendly with a colleague, Ruth Morris, who recently married Jerusalem Post archivist David Brauner.

Through this connection the Karthaus family discovered that Neubauer had survived the war and is now Mrs. Sofer, of Ness Ziona.

At the same ceremony yesterday, a Dutch-Jewish couple, Aaron and Lisa van der Hoek, now living in Melbourne, Australia, planted a tree in honour of the couple who saved their young daughter. The late Cornelis Zwanikken-Wartel and his wife Bertha hid the child at the risk of their lives. Now aged 94, Bertha Zwanikken is too frail to travel, and so the van der Hoek couple planted the tree in her name.

Almost 40 per cent of all the Righteous of the Nations honoured by Yad Vashem are from Holland, according to Dr. Mordechai Palidiel, who heads this department at the Holocaust Remembrance Authority.

He said that the Dutch are less inhibited than others about revealing the fact that they helped Jews. "We frequently get demurrals from people whom we intend to honour from other countries," he said.

Good city, Toronto, but...

By SAM ORBAUM
For The Jerusalem Post
"From Toronto?"
"You bet, eh!"

The Great Toronto Olim Reunion at Shores last week was an opportunity to catch up on all those years past, kids born and wretched winters avoided. While back home in the Queen City the temperature hovered at around zero, about 500 expatriates frolicked in the balmy Israeli autumn.

If you know anything about Toronto geography, Israel is just Bathurst Street extended past Steeles. Bathurst, a 15-kilometre artery that cuts through the heart of North York, a satellite city of Toronto where practically all of the city's 130,000 Jews live, is a point of reference as Montreal's St. Urbain Street used to be. While there are certainly more former Israelis now living "on" or "off" Bathurst than there are Torontonians living in Israel, the Israelis would hardly brag about their new home; the "Canajims" would.

"This is my country. I've been here 16 years and you won't hear me complaining. Good city, Toronto, but *Yerushalayim* is -" Michael Rosenbluth could not quite put it into words, but it was clear that Jerusalem has made him forget Toronto. Rosenbluth is the director-general of Shaare Zedek Hospital in Jerusalem, so he has certainly found his niche in Israel. Some haven't.

Anishara Kirschner-Kozal, a 29-year-old graduate of the University of Toronto from "off Bathurst," has been here for four years and yearns for Toronto. She is displeased with the local ways and has had difficulty integrating professionally in fashion design, and misses her family. "I used to be a Zionist," she said, in a very small voice.

Still, the overwhelming majority have come to terms with the difficulties they faced in settling here. The act of immigrating to Israel, they feel, must entail more hardship than moving from Wilson to Finch streets.

Philip Libman, 31, of Petah Tikva, at one time ran for the office of alderman in North York. Here, he works for Amidar.

"The first 7½ years are the hardest," he says, having been here just that long. An active Zionist in his Toronto days and earlier, in Montreal, Libman noted with satisfaction that "It's great to see we were able to 'brainwash' so many people in Bnei Akiva."

The reunion was organized by Simcha Edell and was supported by the Toronto-Jewish Congress Aliya Support Committee, which is headed by Edell's father Sol.

Edell and his assistant, Joanna Samuels, cooked up the idea with just the right ingredients. For the more goofy, there was a bit of taped Bob and Doug MacKenzie, coupled with guys from out West but who are okay anyway. If you really hate Albertans, there was a fair amount of purely Toronto talent represented by the music of Gordon Lightfoot.

James K. Bartleman, Canada's ambassador to Israel, kept his audience smiling throughout his warm and nostalgic speech. He recalled his earliest memory of Toronto, from 1945 when as a five-year-old, he saw huge crowds of soldiers returning from the war and reuniting with their families in Union Station. The Ambassador spoke glowingly of the Jewish presence in Toronto, and said that Maccabi Tel Aviv notwithstanding, the Toronto Maple Leafs were still the "home team."



REVOLVING DOOR. - The gate to the prime minister's residence before and after rotation. (R. Kaufman, D. Landau photos)

The prime minister's new retreat

By GREER FAY CASHMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The facade of the prime minister's residence has undergone a major change since the rotation of the premiership. A pergola went up last week, coinciding with the first shower of autumn rain. And this week the iron barred gates were replaced by two solid sheets of steel. The combined effect is that of a fortress.

Till now, the prime minister's residence in the heart of Jerusalem looked like any other upper middle-class dwelling in the Rehavia area. Only the observation booths manned by security officers pointed to the fact that the occupants of the house were not in quite the same

category as other residents on the street.

Behind the old entrance to the property was a glass door which used to be a focal point for television and press photographers who spent long hours waiting opposite the gate for the outcome of late-night meetings. The grille gate afforded a view of the door and everyone could see when it opened.

All that is part of the past. In future, media representatives clustered outside the house will have no advance warning that a meeting is open until the heavy gates swing open.

The strain of being constantly on alert may be too much for some

newsmen and they may turn elsewhere for items of interest. Perhaps this was the purpose of the exercise - to deflect media attention from the prime minister.

Senior staffers at the Prime Minister's Office were unable to offer an explanation yesterday. They were not even aware of the pergola and the new gate. Said one: "We're in the office. How do you expect us to know what's going on in the prime minister's home?"

Last night a spokesman from the Prime Minister's Office was able to say that the pergola was put up as protection against the rain, and the gate for security purposes.

'Palestinian' to be staged in W. Germany

By WLADIMIR STRUMINSKI
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

BONN. - The Municipal Theatre of Bonn and the Hamburg Theatre are to stage Yehoshua Sobol's *The Palestinian* (*HaPalestinai*). The Bonn showing, the play's premiere in Germany, is scheduled for November 29. Hamburg performances are to follow a few days later.

The Bonn premiere will be part of the festive opening of a new theatre building. For this reason, top politicians - including Federal President Richard von Weizsäcker and members of the cabinet, as well as parliamentarians - are to be invited.

The theatre intends to organize a public debate on the play and Israeli-Palestinian questions after a number of performances. Chief PLO representative in Bonn, Abdallah Franji, expressed his readiness to meet with an Israeli diplomat, a theatre spokesman said. The Israeli embassy, however, made it clear that it would not agree to meet with Franji, consistent with Israel's long-standing policy of not making contact with representatives of a terrorist organization like the PLO.

Religious questions being 'reconsidered' by Soviets

By WALTER RUBY
NEW YORK. - The chairman of the Council of Religious Affairs of the Soviet Union, Konstantin Kharchev, insists that his government is committed to "democratization in the sphere of government policy towards religion" and that "many questions relating to religious legislation are now being reconsidered."

Speaking at a press conference here last week organized by the Appeal for Conscience Foundation, an inter-religious body of American religious leaders headed by Rabbi Arthur Schneier, a New York Orthodox rabbi, Kharchev said the USSR recognizes that there is a "shortage of rabbis in our country," and is prepared to expand the number of Soviet rabbinical students at the Rabbinical Seminary in Budapest.

There are about 110 synagogues in the USSR, Kharchev stated. Schneier replied that only the largest have rabbis and that the rest are headed by lay leaders.

Asked whether the Soviet government might allow rabbinical students to study in the U.S., Kharchev said

that that would depend to a great extent on relations between the U.S. and USSR.

Kharchev disputed the contention of Moscow refuseniks that Soviet authorities recently destroyed the mikve at Moscow's Marina Roscha synagogue and said that Soviet citizens with complaints about alleged violations of their religious rights by state authorities should appeal to his council instead of seeking to publicize their cases in the West.

Asked why Bibles and Jewish religious articles are denied to prisoners of Zion such as Yosef Begun and Yuli Edelstein, Kharchev said that if this was indeed the case, it was because of "a misunderstanding of our law (by authorities), since there is no prohibition of this kind." The ensuring of such rights "is the primary task of our council," Kharchev stated.

"I believe in the value of dialogue between religious communities in the United States and the Soviet Union," Kharchev said, "and I am committed to encouraging expansion of contacts and exchanges. Noting that he is a Communist

and a non-believer," Kharchev said he nevertheless respects believers, and realizes that religion will continue to be a mass phenomenon in the Soviet Union "for the foreseeable future."

The Soviet Union has a law prohibiting the teaching of religion to children in an educational framework, Kharchev said, but "within the family any Soviet citizen can teach his children about any religion."

He added: "It is not true that believers in the Soviet Union are treated in a lawless manner... Today there is a major process of democratization in our society in all spheres - social, political, and human rights. This process is also a fact in relations between church and state. We are now trying to review religious legislation in the USSR."

Asked about a report that Pinchas Polanski, a religious Jew, had been warned that he had contravened Soviet law and faces trial for teaching Talmud classes, Kharchev replied that Polanski should take his case to the Council on Religious Affairs instead of initiating a campaign in the West.

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Unifil enjoys a lull - even if it cannot be explained

By YA'ACOV FRIEDLER
Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. - The Unifil zone in southern Lebanon has been "absolutely quiet" for the past three weeks, following a month that saw 43 attacks against the peace-keeping force which resulted in five dead and 38 wounded, a UN spokesman said.

Unifil's Tamar Goksel told *The Jerusalem Post* this week, "We can hear the shooting around the Palestinian camps near Tyre, but as they are outside the area under our control, that's all we know about it."

Unifil is deployed only in those

areas that had been occupied by Israel in the Litani operation of early 1978, when the IDF had kept clear of the camp. The nearest Unifil post is several kilometres away from the large Kashadaya camp.

Goksel had no explanation for the sudden lull in attacks on the Unifil men.

But speculation veers between "the fighters are too preoccupied with the war around the camps," and "a clamping down on violence against Unifil by the Amal Shi'ite organization and/or the Syrians."

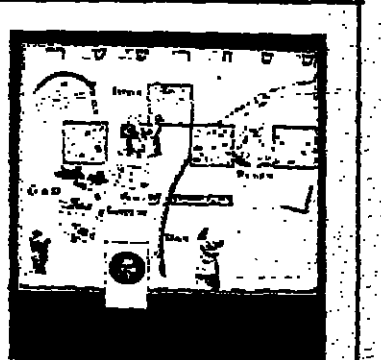
"You buy the explanation that suits you," one source said.

However the blue-beretted UN men "feel a tension in our area since the camp fighting started," Goksel said. More fighters are seen going back and forth, to join the fighting and then return home. But since they travel unarmed, apparently picking up their weapons from stockpiles as they reach the fighting areas, Unifil does not interfere with their movement.

Meanwhile, the force's \$240 million deficit is growing slowly as UN member countries fail to pay their

dues on time, if at all. The money to keep the force going is therefore coming from the UN's general budget, which is sorely strained. As a result, the UN cannot fully reimburse countries which send UN contingents for their troops.

Unifil's need to pay their own expenses, coming on top of having its soldiers killed or maimed, does not improve its image. Nevertheless, the Swedish troops, who are to replace part of the French logistics unit, are continuing to arrive and are to be at full strength, of 400 men, by the end of next month.



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Sinai Campaign was a testing time for Israel's friends

Adenauer kept goods coming

Yeshayahu Jelinek

WEST GERMANY'S pro-Israel stand during the Suez crisis marked a radical change for the better in the two countries' relations. In an about-face, West German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer responded to Ben-Gurion's appeals and decided to continue trading with Israel during the crisis period.

Israeli-West German relations had improved steadily after the signing of the reparations treaty in 1952, but they soured suddenly in 1956. For emotional and moral reasons, Israel had objected to the establishment of bilateral relations, but by 1955 the Foreign Ministry and Israeli political circles realized that the Federal Republic was too important to be ostracized further. Since the impression was that Bonn would be most eager to strengthen relations with Jerusalem, West Germany's refusal to participate in the military action acted as a cold shower.

West Germany bowed to Arab pressure. Fearful of the future of the Hallstein doctrine, which sought to prevent international recognition of East Germany, and seemingly defending Western interests in the Middle East, West Germany chose to turn down Israel's advances.

For Israel, West Germany's refusal came at the worst possible time. The increasing tension in the region and the deteriorating security conditions at home made any concession to Arab countries a stepping stone to war. Early in 1956 the legal advisers of the Foreign Ministry studied the conditions for West German termination of reparations payments in case of war. The ministry was afraid that Bonn may use the opportunity of an armed conflict to free itself from material obligations to Israel, which were important for our economy, and at the same time please the Arabs with ostensible neutrality.

Israeli fears seemed to be confirmed after its invasion of Egypt in October 1956. Voices coming from Bonn were not pleasing. According to reports, officials had stated that West Germany should re-examine her obligations, and see whether the reparations constituted a breach of the proclaimed and desired neutrality. Recriminations came shortly afterwards as West German banks

refused to grant loans for export to Israel, and firms and producers hesitated to accept orders.

American threats to cut off economic aid if Israel did not give in to the United Nations decisions made the West German payments a critical source of income. Although the reparations treaty prohibited shipment of war material to Israel, it allowed other important goods.

NEWS COMING from West Germany alarmed the Israeli government, and Ben-Gurion decided to send a goodwill message to the West German Chancellor. In his letter of November 1, he explained the background of the military actions and continued with Konrad Adenauer to continue the "deliveries of goods to Israel" contracted for under the Israeli-German agreement of 10 September 1956.

Ben-Gurion claimed "that the goods... have been and will be used solely for constructive purposes." The head of the Israeli purchasing mission in Cologne delivered the message and had a special audience with Adenauer.

Adenauer tried to calm Israeli fears, asserting that West Germany intended to carry on its deliveries as in the past. It wanted only to ensure that no war material would be exported, and once this was proven, the flow of goods would proceed unhindered.

Adenauer expressed his approval of the Israeli action, which he said may eventually lead to clarification of a burning problem and remove obstacles leading to peace. He further stated that he did not share the criticism for British and French action either and that the future would demonstrate the positive components of the undertaking. Adenauer requested that the Israelis keep these words secret as the time had not arrived to show West Germany's true feelings.

The West German representative to Nato, Dr. Blakenhorn, disclosed similar ideas, as did Foreign Minister von Brentano in a private letter to a fellow party-member and then openly in a meeting of his party's faction in the Bundestag of November 12.

As seen above, Israel may have



Ben-Gurion and Adenauer — a case of mutual admiration. (Newspoint)

overreacted, perhaps because of unprecise reporting from Bonn. In any case, on November 3, Adenauer postponed his planned trip to Paris for 12 hours in order to consult with heads of the Bundestag factions and for a cabinet meeting. He reported on Ben-Gurion's letter and on his own promise to keep the flow of deliveries uninterrupted. In its communiqué and afterwards, the government stuck to the view, when under fire from Arab states, that international law permitted trade with a state at war, and West Germany was not engaged in supply of war material to Israel.

In a friendly letter to Ben-Gurion on November 20, Adenauer restated his position: "The government of the Federal Republic desires keenly an early and lasting pacification of that region, which is at the same time the most important precondition for continuation of peaceful development and construction of Israel."

But Adenauer was credited with a further step. He allegedly proposed to President Eisenhower his good services in solving the Suez crisis and restoring the Western unity in the dispute over the Middle East. He questioned the wisdom of retreat from Suez before the involved parties, above all the Arabs, expressed willingness to arrange a peace which would satisfy the West. He stated that such conditions would be the only means to combat Soviet plans to conquer the region.

ADENAUER'S NAME as a would-be peacemaker appeared for the first time in 1953, when a rumour coming from Egypt through West German

diplomatic channels indicated General Naguib's willingness to accept Adenauer's mediation in the Arab-Israeli conflict. Israel pursued this report, but nothing materialized. Adenauer certainly would have been pleased to act on behalf of both sides and to become the preserver and forerunner of the Jewish state, but American and Israeli diplomats agreed that in spite of his strong and repeated interest in the region, Adenauer was misinformed and naive.

West Germany's stand during the Suez crisis was of some importance, as it assisted Israel in breaking out of its isolation from the international community. Bonn did not join the economic sanctions Washington sought to impose on Israel, and it defended the Anglo-French action in Nato meetings. In fact, this was one of the few times that Adenauer strongly disagreed with his good friend, U.S. Secretary of State John Foster Dulles.

The Ben-Gurion-Adenauer exchange laid, with all probability, the cornerstone for the friendship the two premiers developed. Although they met in person only twice, once in New York in 1960 and once in Sde Boker in 1964, their mutual appreciation was evident. Time and again Ben-Gurion had warm words for his West German contemporary.

The attitude of the Israeli establishment — and also of the public — towards West Germany changed considerably after November 1956. Bonn's stand during the crisis renewed Israeli trust in German intentions. The Suez campaign established, unexpectedly, a landmark in Israeli-German relations.

American Jews fought a public relations war

Moshe Fox

AN ANALYSIS of the role played by the American Jewish community during the Sinai Campaign helps explain the influence the Jewish community has retained on American Middle East policy ever since.

The tight secrecy that enveloped the start of the campaign had a political cost, since public opinion could not be rallied in support of the drive to end the fedayeen menace and the naval blockade.

At home, Ben-Gurion mustered a political consensus on the first day of the military operation. The people of Israel regarded the numerous terrorist attacks against civilians from the Egyptian and Jordanian borders and the Egyptian blockade on shipping in the Suez Canal and Straits of Tiran as a justified cause for war.

The American president had a distorted intelligence picture and was unaware of the French and British role in the developing military activities. Dwight Eisenhower's policy suggested that the U.S. would assist the "victim" of any aggression in the Middle East. However, for the American administration, the idea of using force to solve international disputes was abhorrent. This conviction remained firm even with regard to Egypt's President Gamal Nasser, who allied himself with the Soviet bloc.

The Jewish community stepped in to sway American public opinion in Israel's favour. The Jewish community took arguments justifying Israel's right to defend itself and skillfully adapted them to suit the American political environment. The Presidents Club's statement of October 31, 1956, is a case in point. The statement asserted that "the conflict in the Middle East is... between democracy and an expansionist dictatorship, between the free world and Nasserism backed by Moscow." This argument complemented the administration's objective of containing international communism and the Soviet Union and played on the "cold war" theme of the time.

This new focus helped to reshape and rephrase the political agenda in the U.S. and suggested that the rivalries in the Middle East were part of a global conflict in which the U.S. and Israel belonged to the same camp. Shifting the Arab-Israeli dispute into a different context made it much easier to identify the "good guys" and the "bad guys." Once the sides were labelled it was only logical for the Jewish community to claim

that it was in the American national interest to support the "good guys."

THE ORGANIZED Jewish community stressed themes that had a great appeal for opinion-makers. American Jews called for applying fair-play rules of negotiation and portrayed Israel as an ally against communism and a vanguard of American type civilization. These themes did not directly address the immediate issue in dispute but were intended to produce a receptive atmosphere for Israel's objectives and show who was the potentially ally of the U.S. in the Middle East. When the threat of sanctions against Israel surfaced, the denial of fair-play rules became a major issue in senators' and congressmen's criticism of the administration.

The effectiveness of the Jewish influence in American politics can be measured by American Jews' ability to build alliances around a cause. "Apple pie" themes introduced into the public relations campaign by the Jewish community were crucial in rallying support. The coalition which supported Israel's cause consisted of a wide range of groups. Among them were: isolationists who resented the UN in general and its double standard in particular; Christians concerned about the status of Christianity in Africa and Asia, who welcomed the containment of fundamentalist Islam; cotton growers, concerned about the cotton price in the commodities market, who wanted to weaken their Egyptian competitors; shipping companies who were eager to teach Egypt a lesson for stopping the free passage in the Suez Canal; and Democrats who rejected the Republican administration's impartiality in the Arab-Israeli dispute. It was this broad coalition which made the Jewish community an effective interest group.

The effectiveness of the Jewish influence was enhanced by the unified stand and the cohesive position it showed throughout the Sinai Campaign. It is clear that by 1956 the centrality of Israel in Jewish life had become a major factor in consolidating the commitment of American Jewry to political support of this country. The Eisenhower adminis-

tration's effort to drive a wedge between the Jewish community and Israel failed as did the attempts to use Jewish leaders, such as Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver, to "soften" Israel's position. Open criticism was confined to fringe groups, such as the anti-Zionist American Council for Judaism, and had no impact.

JEWISH INFLUENCE was even more effective because it was perceived as a menace by the president and his close aides. Secretary of State John Foster Dulles told Roosevelt Barnes, associate general secretary of the National Council of Churches, that the "Jewish influence" was "completely dominating the scene." Dulles unconsciously referred to the myth of the "Elders of Zion" when he explained to Barnes that "a great deal depends on whether Ben-Gurion can control our government's policies through the Jewish pressure here."

The feeling of being threatened by the Jewish influence was not limited to the secretary of state. John Eisenhower recalled his father saying one evening in October 1956, "Well, it looks as if we are in trouble. If the Israelis keep going... I may have to use force to stop them... then I would lose the election. There would go New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Connecticut at least."

Ample records of phone calls from the Oval Office and the secretary of state's office suggest that Eisenhower and Dulles believed that American Jews exercised overwhelming political power over American Middle East policy. Eisenhower and Dulles expressed their view on the "Jewish influence" on numerous occasions to the extent that they might be perceived as being obsessed with the influence Jews exerted in American politics.

The organized Jewish community was a powerful and effective voice for Israel on several occasions. Following the military operation, Eisenhower and Dulles considered applying sanctions against Israel. Between November 7, 1956 and February 20, 1957, the possibility of sanctions surfaced at least three times. Nevertheless, their intentions were foiled due to Jewish political pressure.

The writer is a student at the Hebrew University's Institute of Contemporary Judaism.

A religious 'safety valve'

THERE AND THEN
Sraya Shapiro



Nissim Eliad (U. Keren)

THE ROAD from the dismal Talmud Tora in downtown Tiberias to the brightly-lit congregation of Progressive Judaism in Ramat Aviv was a long one for Nissim Eliad, but not altogether unpredictable. He had always been looking for honest, logical solutions in his private life, politics, religion. The strait-jacket of Orthodox ritual irked him. "God cannot be a martinet. The prophets made it clear. Some rites prescribed by traditionalists smack of idolatry."

Eliad, a former Knesset member on the Independent Liberal ticket, preaches on special occasions to the Progressive Judaism congregation in Ramat Aviv.

His forebears might not have approved of Eliad's progress. His mother's grandfather came from Izmir in Turkey, and built a synagogue in Tiberias. "The Senior Synagogue is still standing," he says. "It looks small now, but in my memory, it looked as big as a temple when we prayed in it on high holy days."

His father's family, the Amzeles, trekked from Fez, in Morocco, for two years until they reached the Holy Land.

Life was hard in those days. Eliad's father was taught the tailoring trade. "We were seven brothers and sisters in our family, and we all managed pretty well," Eliad asserts proudly.

THE OLD town of Tiberias, with its

small black-and-white basalt houses, the wide expanse of the lake on one side and the steep mountain on the other, was naturally conducive to mysticism. The young Nissim would have liked to study to be a rabbi. But things were changing, even in Tiberias. Secularity was gaining momentum, and then there was the need to earn one's living. Emerging from school, the young man took on a government job in the telephone service, which took him to Haifa, and eventually to Petah Tikva.

"As a civil servant I was supposed to shun politics," Eliad says. But life was stronger than regulations. The man who drew Nissim Eliad

into the political circle was Izhar Harari, the soft-speaking, clear-minded radical, one of the few sabras in the mainly "yekke" Progressive Party led by Felix Rosenbluth — later Pimbas Rosen.

No, he did not feel out of his depth with the yekkes. Perhaps because of his looks — he is hefty built, and speaks in a strong, self-assured voice. Perhaps because of his inbred romanticism, and his Faustian trust in Fate. Or simply because of his natural ability to make friends and reason calmly.

He rose in the Independent Liberal Party and was elected to the Knesset, where he often spoke about Arab affairs. Arabic is his native tongue. "We used to translate the verses of the Bible into vernacular Arabic in the Talmud Tora." And he would like very much to see the establishment of a Hebrew-Arabic Language Academy so that neologisms in both languages could have a common root.

But to return to Progressive Judaism. In the Diaspora, Eliad admits, Reform had often served as a channel to assimilation. "Not in Israel. Here it is a safety valve to keep the tradition of the prophets alive."

Judaism, he says, is culture. Its traditions are a light for humanity. Reform scholars are now making strenuous efforts to distill the moral precepts of the Talmud sages and make them acceptable to the layman.

Conducting in his element

Hafia Symphony Orchestra Subscription Concert No. 1. Stanley Sperber conducting, with Gila Yaron, soprano, Yaron Windmüller, baritone, the Dusseldorf Choir, the Schubert Group (Wuppertal) and the Oratorien Choir (Hildesheim) directed by Franz Langewiesche. (Hafia Auditorium, October 26.) All Brahms programmes: Tangle, Overture, Op. 31; Ein deutsches Requiem, Op. 45.

JUDGING from the titles of both these works one might wonder whether the choices suited the festive opening of a concert season. However, the "Tragic" companion work to the academic "Festival" overture, was not intended by the composer as the overture to any particular tragedy. It is only a one-movement great orchestral work of expressive music.

Although the death of his mother in 1865 did inspire part of his "German" Requiem, the work is not a liturgical composition. The seven long movements based on German texts from both the Old and New Testaments, chosen by Brahms himself, do, however, have an essential Lutheran quality. The music, with its grandiose dramatic declamatory style, reflects both the austerity of his north German home and the charm of Vienna. The chorus has the principal role, the two solo voices only intervening in short passages from time to time.

Conductor Stanley Sperber was

very much in his element in the presentation of this great choral work. Showing complete mastery of the score, he led the enlarged choir, the soloists and the orchestra with clarity and resourcefulness, achieving good and continuous rapport with all the musicians. But for the tenor group that lacked in strength, the three choirs blended well in the enlarged group. The singing had clear intonation and clear enunciation.

Gila Yaron sang in a clear and cultivated voice, but somehow the dramatic part was not suited to her style of singing. Baritone Yaron Windmüller showed a warm voice, his style and musical interpretation came across impressively.

The HSO was in good form and there were many solos which were played with devotion.

The whole presentation of the evening was convincing and was very well received by the audience who responded with an enthusiastic and prolonged ovation.

PIANO RECITAL — Rainer Maria Klaus, Brahms: Sonata Pathétique, Op. 13; Chopin: Nocturne, Op. 64; Debussy: Children's Corner, Album for the Piano, Op. 101. (Hafia Auditorium, October 21.)

GUEST PIANIST Rainer Maria Klaus, on his first visit to Israel, presented a short programme of

mostly well-known piano pieces, which are favourite works of varied styles. He gave a polished performance, with technical lucidity.

Klaus also brought to the fore the music of Charles Henri Valentin Alkan (1813-1888), French composer and pianist of Jewish ancestry, whose real name was Morhange. A friend of Liszt and Chopin, Alkan composed piano pieces of daunting technical complexity.

Le Feste d'Esopo is a set of 25 variations, the last of his 12 studies in minor keys, Op. 39. Klaus rendered the work with vigour and spirit, displaying remarkable craftsmanship that went over well with the small capacity audience.

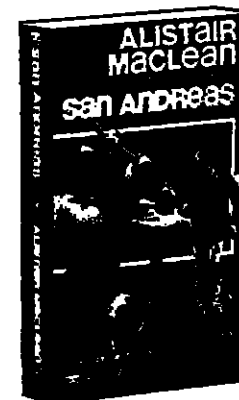
In the opening Beethoven sonata, titled by the composer himself the *Grande Sonate Pathétique*, Klaus's playing had inner calm and textual accuracy. What was lacking was more personal involvement to match the expressive style of the composition.

The pianist presented only three from the set of six pieces of the Debussy Children's corner. As an encore, he added the Chopin Polonaise in A-Flat major, Op. 53, that had romantic conviction. Again, however, the playing required fuller tone and greater discrimination in touch and colour.

ESTHER REUTER

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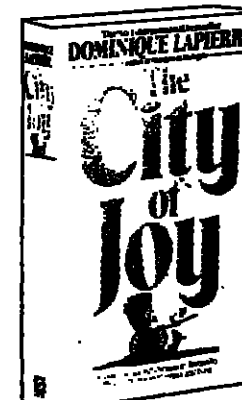
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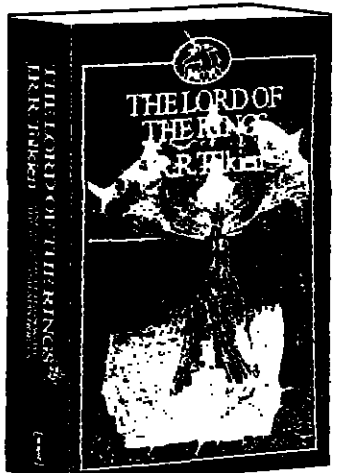
SAN ANDREAS
Alistair Maclean
Above and below a medical ship hovers an attack force of Luftwaffe and U-boats. In its hold lies an astounding secret that could turn the San Andreas into a floating catcscamp.
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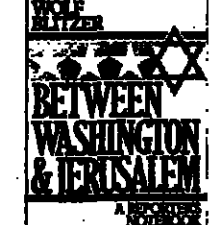
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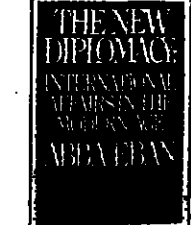
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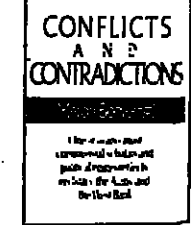
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Hundreds of skulls in the Luwero Triangle marking one of Uganda's 'killing fields.' At right, troops in the National Resistance Army along the road to Masaka (AFP)

Uganda's nightmare

LINSEY HILSUM
Kampala

"OVER HALF the country is still out of bounds," said a Kampala-based foreign aid worker. In the south, peace reigns at last and the process of reconstruction is under way, but in the north, fear and violence are still the people's daily experience.

In the north-eastern town of Soroti, clusters of raggedly-dressed people are camping in the hollows of trees and on the verandas of houses, cooking over open fires. These are the "displaced" - refugees in their own country - who have fled to the town because their homesteads were too insecure.

Bands of cattle rustlers, many dressed in army uniforms and carrying automatic weapons, are terrorizing the countryside north of Soroti, not only stealing cattle but also raping, looting and killing. Twenty-six thousand people are staying in makeshift camps, which may eventually become homes, while over 100,000 have been forced to flee their villages.

Cattle rustling is a traditional problem in the area, where Karamajong warriors from the far north of the country come southwards to take cattle from the Teso people. But recently the raids have become more violent.

In the old days it was just cattle raiding, now it's murder of women

and children as they run away, and murder of people in their homes," said Ted Maon, who works with the Church of Uganda near Soroti.

Local people complain that the National Resistance Army (NRA) is doing little to combat the cattle rustlers. "We ask for help, but get no response," said the chief of one sub-parish where raiders seized the community's entire herd of 10,000 cattle and killed seven people.

A local NRA official claims that the army is fighting back, but confesses that they have not succeeded in capturing many of the raiders. People have started to accuse the NRA of organizing the cattle raids, an allegation which is very unlikely to be true, but which reveals the level of disillusion with the NRA that the Teso people feel.

THE REASON the NRA is not protecting the Teso adequately is that they cannot spare the troops. Most of the army is busy fighting anti-government rebels on the outskirts of northern towns, near Uganda's border with Sudan.

In March, the NRA drove the forces of the country's previous army into southern Sudan. Here they regrouped, and in August came back over the border to launch a series of attacks on NRA garrisons and other targets. President Yoweri Museveni claims that the rebels pose no real threat to the country's security, and it is true that they are unlikely to penetrate further south.

The NRA still holds the towns,



but people are afraid to venture into the countryside. Travelling is dangerous as there have been attacks on buses and other vehicles.

A Kampala-based group called the Uganda Human Rights Activists, which was set up by exiles in Sweden during the regime of ex-president Milton Obote, has claimed that "there is continued harassment of innocent civilians in northern Uganda by NRA soldiers."

National Resistance Movement officials say that such incidents are the work of other factions which have been incorporated into the new army, as part of Museveni's policy of coalition and reconciliation.

There is no doubt that many of the acts of "indiscipline" involving harassment of civilians can be blamed on these groups. But it is this kind of behaviour that is making some Ugandans who were originally very enthusiastic about Museveni begin to doubt him.

WHEN MUSEVENI came to power earlier this year after five years of

guerrilla warfare, the people's support was based not only on the man's personal appeal, but also on the hope that after 20 years of violence, things would be different. They are different, but not different enough.

Soldiers at road-blocks no longer beat up travellers and steal their property, but road-blocks still exist. Between Kampala and Soroti - a distance of about 320 kilometres - there are 15, where passengers on public transport have to show their identity cards and sometimes get out while the vehicle is searched.

Prisoners are again being detained in military barracks, where conditions are unsanitary and overcrowded, and some are denied access to their families or lawyers. The NRA, just like its predecessors, hijacks vehicles belonging to international aid agencies and takes them to the front line in the north.

And following the recent arrests of two separate groups of alleged coup plotters, Museveni's claim that the country is "united" rings hollow. The government is increasingly

critical of foreign and Ugandan journalists for highlighting such issues, and Museveni has issued warnings to several individual reporters. Journalists, he said, should check everything they publish with the government first.

Government ministers, however, are increasingly inaccessible. In the early days of the regime, NRA commanders and newly appointed ministers were open and honest with the press, but these days they are consistently "at a meeting," "on safari" or simply "busy."

MANY OF Uganda's problems seem intractable, and it would be unjust to blame Museveni for not solving them in eight short months. Corruption is a way of life, something which is not surprising in a country where a teacher's salary is the equivalent of \$10 a month, or the current price of one bunch of *matooke* (plantain bananas).

In the country's budget, which was only recently released, the shilling was devalued from about 5,000 shillings to 1,400 shillings to the dollar. The result is a grossly overvalued currency, a thriving black market where dollars trade for eight or nine times the official price, and soaring inflation.

In the "Luwero Triangle," the area near Kampala where over 200,000 people are thought to have been killed during the Obote regime, life does seem to be better than it has been for years. Maize and plantain are flourishing in fields which lay fallow for years, while their owners were hiding in the bush. It's an area where hope is very much alive, and where government services such as clean water and renewed health services are promises fulfilled.

But in other parts of the country, there is little change. One woman in Soroti told me she had pains in her chest. I asked what was wrong, and she said that cancer had been diagnosed so they amputated one breast. Then they said they had made a mistake, it was not cancer after all, but by then it was too late. She accepts the error, because there is nothing else she can do.

Further south, in a government hospital, there was no aspirin, and the only painkiller available was paracetamol, to be injected with an evil-looking, reused needle. There was no doctor either, because he was away in Kampala on a political education course which had so far lasted two months.

"We don't know when he'll be back," said the nurse in charge, "so we're just pushing on as best we can."

(London Observer Service)

Sexual politics

INSIDER'S ENGLAND

DAVID HOROVITZ

LONDON. - Jeffrey Archer is still maintaining that he "never, repeat never" met prostitute Monica Coghlan, and that he has never had any kind of association with any prostitute.

If that is the case, one can only be amazed at the breathtaking lack of foresight and awareness the deputy chairman of the Conservative Party, who felt constrained to resign this week, demonstrated in dealing with Miss Coghlan.

As his wife Mary told the hungry press corps camped outside the Archer family home in Rochdale on Monday, "It might have been wiser had he gone to the police. But we all do foolish things under stress."

Indeed we do, but Archer is clearly no fool, and his decision to pay Coghlan £2,000 to leave the country and thus put an end to rumours of a liaison between them does leave one with the impression that there is rather more to this affair than has emerged till now.

Curiously enough, Jeffrey Archer's bestseller, *First Among Equals*, tells of an encounter between an MP and a prostitute. Labour MP Raymond Gould spots attractive young Mandy as he drives past a Park Lane petrol station.

He picks her up, telling her that he's a used car salesman, and she takes him back to her Paddington hotel.

Unfortunately for Gould, he is



Conservative Party Deputy Chairman Jeffrey Archer, who resigned this week

(City Syndication Ltd.)

recognized by another where as they pass on the hotel stairs, and the next morning's mail brings a demand for £500 to help Mandy "forget it once and for all."

Unlike his creator, Gould consults a top lawyer, who tells him to sit tight. Even when a reporter gets a sniff of the story, the lawyer heads him off, telling the hack the whole story and relying on his sense of fair play to "let this one go."

"Fleet Street are not quite the bunch of shits everyone imagines them to be," Gould's lawyer tells the worried MP.

The lawyer's gamble pays off, there's not a word in the press, and Archer's hero winds up being made prime minister.

Archer's own political career, however, has been dotted by one or two rather spectacular misjudgments not unlike this most recent one.

His first mistake, of course, was to invest almost half a million pounds in a Canadian company called Aquablast, which turned out to be a fraud, foresight and awareness he demon-

strated in dealing with Miss Coghlan. He entered the House of Commons aged 29; at 34 his career was in ruins. But Archer clawed his way back to fortune and fame, knocking off his first novel, *Not a Penny More*, not a penny less, in a mere 10 weeks, and following it with four others and a collection of short stories, all of them bestsellers.

Eleven years after he had been forced out of the House, Archer was back among the powerbrokers, brought in as Conservative Party deputy chairman by Margaret Thatcher to brush up the party's tarnished mid-term image.

No sooner was he safely ensconced among the Tory faithful, however, but he set out as if intent on dooming himself again. At the 1985 party conference, Archer challenged delegates: "You wouldn't buy a second-hand car from this government, would you?" He followed up that gem with a suggestion that the unemployed were "work-shy," and topped the list by declaring his support for Ulster Loyalist Rev. Ian Paisley as prime minister of a united Ireland.

This last year, though, had seen a quieter, more tactful Archer, enthusiastically touring the country to spread the Tory gospel at over 300 party lunches, fund-raisers and fetes.

AS Archer now looks glumly down upon the debris of his gilded political debacle, he might take small comfort in the knowledge that he is far from the first Tory to disgrace his party with a whiff or more of sex scandal.

No less than four Conservative names spring readily to mind, looking no further back than 1963. That was the year that John Profumo, secretary of state for war, was forced to resign over his association with prostitute Christine Keeler, a scandal that sent shock-waves through Harold Macmillan's government and paved the way for Labour's 1964 election victory.

Then came the Lambton-Jellicoe episode, exposed, like the Profumo and Archer affairs, in the pages of Britain's best-selling newspaper, the *News of the World*. Lord Lambton and Earl Jellicoe left the Commons in 1973 after the newspaper provided graphic evidence of their dealings with London's ladies of the night.

Most recently, and not yet forgotten, was the Cecil Parkinson resignation, the party chairman quitting after his former secretary announced that she was having his baby in October 1983.

Parkinson, like Archer, was one of Thatcher's blue-eyed boys, and had been given much of the credit for engineering his party's 1983 election win.

Slowly but surely, Parkinson is making his way back to the top, appearing at this year's party conference with his wife Ann, who stayed with him throughout his affair with secretary Sarah Keays.

Many pundits, indeed, expect to see Parkinson back at the top table in the next election. It looks rather less likely that Archer will be able to emulate this feat and bounce back for a second time.

(London Observer Service.)

Paris - with a threat of terror in the air

MICHELLE MAZEL
Paris

WHILE THE sun shines on the French capital where a glorious Indian summer lingers on, cops toting machine-guns stroll in twos and threes through the streets, a constant reminder of the threat of terror still hovering over the city.

The wave of bloody attacks that rocked Paris in September left in its wake hundreds of wounded, many of them still in hospital today. Bombs went off all over the city, hitting elegant restaurants as popular stores with a low-income clientele.

It seems as if no place is safe any more, and there is a feeling of frustration and bitter anger among the Parisians at what they perceive as senseless attacks on a country that has never been an enemy of the Arabs.

At the same time, they accept without demur the many checks and controls through which the police

are trying to safeguard them. Public buildings are guarded by policemen - or, to be accurate, policewomen - with machine-guns.

They also display huge posters in the best Wild West tradition, with a reward of \$150,000 being offered for information leading to the capture of the terrorists responsible for the September bombings. On the posters, mug-shots of the Abdallah brothers, members of the Christian Lebanese family, believed to be behind the attacks designed to force the government to free their brother, George Ibrahim Abdallah, currently in jail for terrorist activities, and thought to be the brain behind several assassinations, notably that of the Israeli diplomat

Ya'acov Bar-Simantov in 1982.

Private security firms are doing a brisk trade hiring out hundreds of young men in grey flannel pants and blue blazers, supposedly experts in checking bags and suspicious people, to department stores, banks, restaurants and sundry shops. In the high risk Opera district, where the major department stores are located, security personnel are also equipped with metal detectors.

THE WEAK links in the security programme remains the Underground railway network, the celebrated Métro, which, together with its younger brother the RER (the new, modern express network connecting Paris with its suburbs) carries daily four times the population of Israel.

In September, a major disaster was averted when a bomb was spotted barely in time; since then suspi-

cious objects are thoroughly checked out - which may mean halting the traffic and evacuating people.

Here, as in the streets, there is an impressive display of police presence. It has already had a welcome side-effect: a sharp drop in petty crime in the Underground, added to a significant decrease of the usual harassment by beggars.

THOUGH there has fortunately been no new bombing, perhaps because of the stringent precautionary measures, the police are still very much on the alert, especially in view of the fact that new threats are being made daily by sundry terrorist organizations.

The current issue of the popular weekly, *Paris Match*, carries such a threat from the Abdallah brothers, interviewed in the fastness of their Lebanese hideout.

China's taboo subject: human rights

JONATHAN MIRSKY
Shanghai

AFTER SEVERAL days of patiently enduring uncomfortable comments on corruption, crime, inflation, managerial inefficiency, bureaucratic bungling, and foreign policy inconsistencies, a high-ranking revolutionary veteran blew up when questioned on the subject of human rights in China.

He had just been asked about Democracy Wall. There, during the short-lived "Peking Spring" of 1979-80, thousands of young Chinese had publicly demonstrated their political discontent. They had been spurred by Deng Xiaoping's encouraging "Wall posters are excellent," little realizing that China's post-Mao leaders expected only criticism of the Gang of Four, and praise for their successors.

But when the pamphlets and posters at the Wall moved from condemnation of the past to demands for political freedom, not to mention criticism of the Communist Party, the wall was abruptly washed clean and within a short time more than 200 of its leading lights, all of whom had written their names and addresses

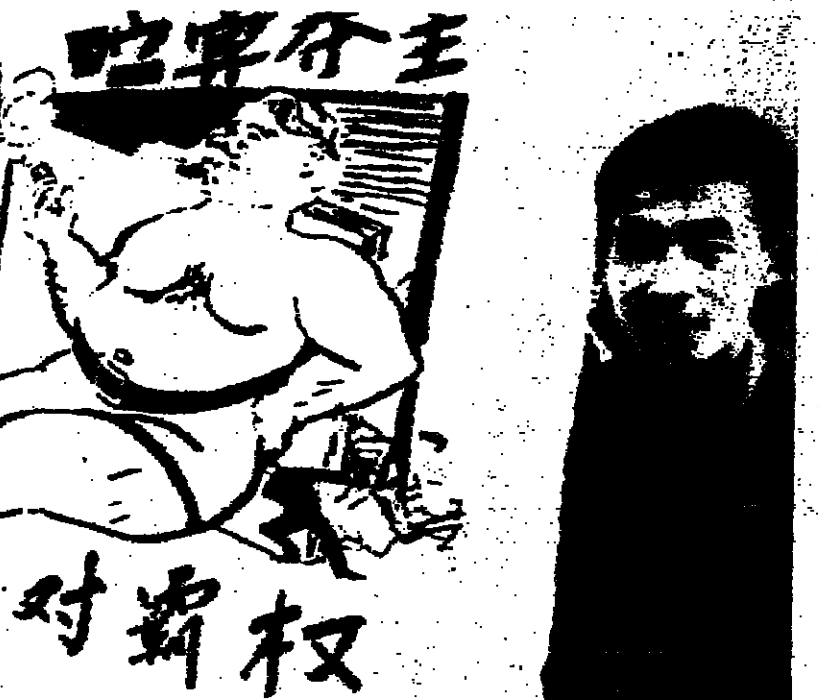
on their broadsheets, had been arrested. Their trials, with a handful of exceptions, were secret and now, six years later, most of them are still in detention.

When asked if China's current plans for political reform and "socialist democracy" included provisions for new democracy walls, the high official abandoned his customary patience.

Democracy Wall was no demand for democracy, he insisted. Those arrested were intending to overthrow the Chinese government and had conveyed secret documents to foreigners.

This is a surprising allegation. Until now, party spokesmen have maintained that only Wei Jingshen, an ex-red guard and son of a Party official, had supplied information on China's military losses in Vietnam to a foreign journalist. Wei is now serving out his 16-year sentence.

THE OFFICIAL then permitted



Students carrying a banner showing a soldier leaning against a textbook. Their protest came in 1979, when the Chinese Army had been occupying the Peking People's University for seven years (AP wirephoto)

himself a burst of anger. Those detained were no more than common criminals. What country does not arrest law breakers? Foreigners, he cautioned, should not press too hard on these serious matters or relations with China would suffer.

The official then grew calmer. His government needs advice and criticism, he observed. There are many problems in every area of the economy, science, and technology, and after thousands of years of backwardness or what the Party calls "feudalism," even he, he conceded, tapping his head, suffered from traditional attitudes.

But about one thing there could be no doubt, he emphasized. Party rule and Party discipline must be secure and no small group could be permitted to change basic policies. Quoting Deng Xiaoping, he noted that anyone attempting to alter the Party's course "will be brought down."

In another part of Peking, a venerable writer of national reputation who suffered for years under official

persecution and imprisonment before rehabilitation, said: "I'm glad human rights came up in this discussion. The 'Old Man' (Deng Xiaoping) wants plenty of changes but not too much."

The young official in the room when he spoke said they were glad foreigners asked questions Chinese do not dare ask for themselves.

But another intellectual who was harassed during the Cultural Revolution was even more optimistic. "These days people can at least refuse to obey anything the Party says no matter how absurd," he said. "Two years ago during some sort of political campaign, the head of my institute told us the Party wanted all of us to criticize ourselves in writing. That sort of thing has been going on for years. This time we all refused and nothing happened. Frankly I think if there were another Democracy Wall now they wouldn't shut it down."

(London Observer Service.)

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South Africa feels sanctions crunch

By DOUGLAS DALZIEL

LONDON. — After years of fear and false starts, the sanctions crunch finally arrived for South Africa this week with the announced pull-out of General Motors and International Business Machines.

Both companies will sell to local, employee-based consortia. Unlike earlier announcements by firms such as Coca-Cola and Britain's General Electric Corp. (GEC) that they were withdrawing from the apartheid state, the moves by Big Blue and GM are the real thing. Coke and GEC, along with a number of other, smaller companies over the years, have settled for franchise deals which amount to having their moral cake and eating their profits at the same time.

For IBM, whose pull-out announcement stated that products will only be guaranteed for three years and spare parts for five, the withdrawal is a genuine break, especially since it is assumed that the supply guarantees apply to all IBM companies.

Unlike GM, which had been taking losses for some time in the face of intense competition, IBM remained in profit although its market share, outside of mainframe machines, had declined in recent years. With the giant slice of the mainframe market and an overall 20 per cent share of the sector as a whole, IBM is clearly the largest and most important computer concern within South Africa.

The two big pull-outs, coming within 24 hours of one another and following on the sanctions decision by the U.S. Senate, has piled on the pressure in Pretoria at a time when higher gold prices looked to be promising salvation for the mangled

The planned pull-outs by General Motors and IBM look to be genuine. They must be causing panic in Pretoria's corridors of power.

and battered South African economy. With the metal clearly settled in at the \$425-plus level, there were hopes within both government and the business community, that the economic woes of the past few years were coming to an end.

Although neither GM nor IBM have listed anti-apartheid pressure as in any way involved in their decisions, it is obvious that the growing weight of international pressure is having an effect. Congressmen and senators in the U.S. have found themselves the targets for tough lobbying from the powerful civil rights coalitions and consumer boycotts, and inter-governmental arm twisting around the world has created a most unfavourable climate for those companies wishing to continue their direct involvement with the apartheid state.

In the short term, the pressure and consequent pull-outs by U.S.-based companies will benefit exporters in regions less prone to internal anti-apartheid pressure. And although Raymond Parsons, chief executive of the South African Association of Chambers of Commerce, continues to hold out hopes for a British trade boost in this respect, it is Japan, Taiwan and South Korea which will undoubtedly be the main beneficiaries.

Along with such anti-sanctions measures as imposing a news blackout earlier this month on all shipping out of the main east coast port of Durban, Pretoria has done much over the past nine months to strengthen ties in Asia. This would be the obvious route for much sanctions busting, coupled with existing governmental contacts with Israel and a chain of private companies based in Europe.

Over the past two years, Pretoria has realized that the threat of meaningful sanctions — starving the country of investment — was finally on the cards, despite the earlier optimism that President P.W. Botha's much touted reform package would win the day internationally.

The clearest signs came from U.S. companies with South African subsidiaries. In 1984, just seven of them announced they were withdrawing. A year later and the annual rate had risen to 39. And while many of these were perhaps not real breaks, the fact that so many companies felt it necessary to, at the very least, give the impression of breaking contact with South Africa, rang extremely loud alarm bells.

So far this year, 22 American companies have taken the same stand and the giant petroleum multi-

national Shell has been making similar noises. In investment terms the result is dramatic. Informal estimates within the Johannesburg business community put the drop in U.S. investment at a staggering 50 per cent over the past five years, down from \$2.6 billion to \$1.3 b.

And even before pressure began to build on the various political establishments, banks around the world had taken an extremely cautious view on loans to Pretoria. Despite British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's insistence that Britain not apply full sanctions, British banks have drastically cut back on funding. "In general terms, South Africa is not an area we are lending to at present," says a leading banker. Barclays and Standard Chartered, the two banks with the greatest presence and heaviest exposure in South Africa have also been cutting back on their investments, selling to local shareholders.

Such decisions, the banks have said, have been taken in the light of economic conditions and their international exposure.

But whatever the reasons given, the simple fact is that capital is fleeing Africa's southern tip at a rate which must be causing near panic in the corridors of power. And Raymond Parsons' repeated insistence that "the world" can take advantage of the U.S. cutbacks to profit from South Africa sounds increasingly hollow given the present international economic and political realities. The time of the economic leger — the retreat into a tightly repressive siege economy — has dawned for the wealthiest and most industrialised country on the African continent. (London Observer Service)

After 10 years stagnation

Beersheba on growth track

By LIORA MORIEL

Jerusalem Post Reporter
BEERSHEBA. — After a decade of stagnation, poised on the brink of bankruptcy with a \$25 million deficit, the city is at last beginning to see the light of renewed growth. Avi Har-Sagi, the head of Beersheba's year-old economic unit, told *The Jerusalem Post* this week.

The deficit was just over \$2m. when I resigned from the city treasury two years ago, and now it's 10 times as high," he said. "Obviously, there's a political decision (in Jerusalem) not to help the city, although there have been several agreements about consolidating these debts."

Despite the fiscal problems facing Beersheba, the municipality went ahead with plans to form a semi-autonomous unit charged with the task of attracting new business in Beersheba.

In the 10 years after the 1967 Six Day War the city grew at a rapid pace, expanding to a population of 115,000 and absorbing several waves of new immigrants, especially Russians. But the 10 years since then have seen the city grind to virtual halt in terms of development. Indeed, there have been signs of an economic downturn and a population decline.

"Now we've stopped the trend," said Har-Sagi.

One of his first tasks was to see if any "drawer plans" could be advanced to completion. He discovered that there were none. "So we decided to reduce the city tax on the industrial area near the market drastically, so that from 30,000 square metres of empty warehouses and other commercial space we now have only 3,000. Then we looked to attracting those people who wanted to move out into villa villages on the periphery, and sold empty lots for construction at very low prices."

Now, said Har-Sagi, the situation in town has improved and people who have not yet invested heavily in the new satellite towns have changed their minds and decided to stay in Beersheba.

"We're now looking into the area near the Lon Forest, to construct a villa-village within the city limits, without an apartment buildings at all. We're talking about a new neighbourhood, some 800-1,000 families. The infrastructure already exist in the general area, so we only have to extend water lines, electric wires and so on."

Har-Sagi told *The Post* that former mayor Eliahu Navi, in his capacity as chairman of the assembly of Negev representatives, a newly formed lobby for the south, just returned from the U.S. with the city's legal adviser to raise funds for the region.

"Nobody waits for Israelis with open chequebooks any more, you have to work hard and influence people to get donations," he said.

High on the city's, and the Negev's, agenda is luring new, soph-



One of the city's top priorities is to lure high technology industry to the area and provide employment to technicians and scientists graduating from local institutes of higher education.

istic industries to the area, to allow the highly-trained technicians and scientists who graduate yearly from the Practical Engineering College and the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev to remain instead of seeking job opportunities elsewhere. Har-Sagi said negotiations with several potential investors are under way, but no concrete projects have yet resulted.

Two projects that have been brought to successful fruition in the past year are in the entertainment field; a movie theatre and a cafeteria.

"Last summer we began negotiations with Golan-Globus about turning a municipal building near the central bus station into a multiple movie theatre like the Rav-Hen in Tel Aviv. After three months of talks, exactly a year ago, we shook hands on a deal. But then Uri Nissim, a local theatre owner, took us to court charging that we had rigged the public tender in their favour and that he wanted to put in an offer."

"So we went back to the drawing board, which takes lots of bureaucratic time, and filed another tender. In the end, Nissim decided that he had no means to take on such a scheme and Golan-Globus decided that they wanted to renegotiate. So they got a better deal, and Beersheba will [in a year or two] have a Rav-Sheva with seven movie halls of different sizes, from very small to medium."

Yosef Feldman, a local entrepreneur, has been awarded the concession in Abraham's Well, where he will set up a cafeteria next spring. The terms of the agreement, ratified by the city council two weeks ago, call for him to invest \$70,000 in the project and pay the city \$350 in rent every month for the next 10 years, at which time the place will revert to the municipality.

"We plan to increase our own input, adding to the current exhibition there of ancient agricultural tools," said Har-Sagi. The city clearly hopes to make the ancient well an up-and-coming tourist attraction.

Har-Sagi is confident that the municipal mini-revolution that has given rise to the new officials at City Hall with continue to swing the tide towards the future, with progress and development on the economic and the social front.

WORLD BUSINESS IN BRIEF

International dealers vote to join London

LONDON (Reuters). — International bond dealers voted overwhelmingly yesterday to approve a proposed merger with the London Stock Exchange.

The bond dealers, grouped in the International Securities Regulatory Organization (Isro), approved the merger by 164 votes to one. The move now has to win the support of 75 per cent of stock exchange members in a vote on November 11 and 12.

Isro, which represents giant international bond-dealing firms from New York, Tokyo and elsewhere, was considering setting up its own telephone-dealing stock market in London to handle internationally-traded British equities. The London exchange feared that Isro firms could take a major slice of business in British equities if they remained separate.

Under the proposed merger, all dealing will take place through the London exchange.

THE LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE yesterday again suffered breakdowns in its computerized trading system, and dealers said there were serious doubts about the network's capacity to cope with "big bang" business.

Three key market-makers — Barclays de Zoete Wedd, Warburg Securities and Morgan Grenfell — reported they had suspended trading through the stock exchange's Seaq dealing system yesterday morning, the third day of dealing after Monday's "big bang." The entire system was knocked out for an hour on Monday and for 34 minutes Tuesday when it became overloaded with requests to see pages of its information service.

Stock exchange spokeswoman Anne Coleman said officials were working on faults in the information system, which had been running for six years but was now carrying double its previous load.

But some dealers expressed frustration at the frequent breakdowns

and said it was clear the exchange had seriously underestimated the demands that would be placed on the system.

THE EURO-TUNNEL CONSORTIUM board, whose company is planning to build a rail tunnel linking Britain and France, was meeting yesterday to review the hesitant response from institutional investors to its first share subscription.

The consortium's share offer, aimed at raising \$288 million from institutions, officially closed yesterday. It was hoped that French and British investors would each supply one third of the funds, with the remainder of the money coming from U.S. and Japanese institutions. FIRST INTERSTATE BANCORP. on Tuesday said it was raising its offer to buy Bankamerica Corp. to \$22 a share, or about \$3.4 billion.

A merger of Bankamerica, the second-largest banking concern in the U.S., and First Interstate, the ninth-largest, would be the biggest such deal in the nation's history.

In a statement, Los Angeles-based First Interstate noted that the higher offer, which would swap a package of securities for each Bankamerica share, exceeded Bankamerica's book value as of September 30.

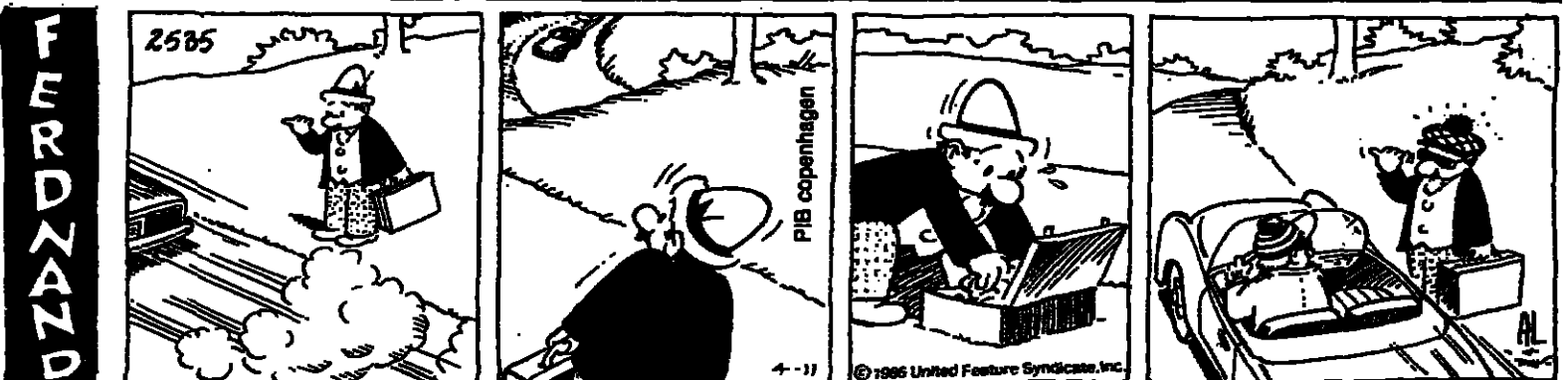
Oil drilling worries users of Suez Canal

CAIRO (Reuters). — Oil drilling and exploration work in the Gulf of Suez could obstruct navigation and is causing concern among shippers. A senior official of the International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) said yesterday.

Chris Horrocks, secretary-general of the ICS, said shippers recognized the importance of oil to the Egyptian economy, but "the ingredients of concern are there and we are worried about the safety of navigation in the region," because of the rigs and platforms in the gulf.

Horrocks is attending a three-day conference on navigation in the Gulf of Suez, which opened Tuesday under the aegis of the Arab Institute of Navigation, to discuss the problem of congestion from increased oil tanker traffic in its waters.

Nearly 90 per cent of Egypt's total oil production of close to 900,000 barrels per day comes from offshore drills in the Gulf of Suez.



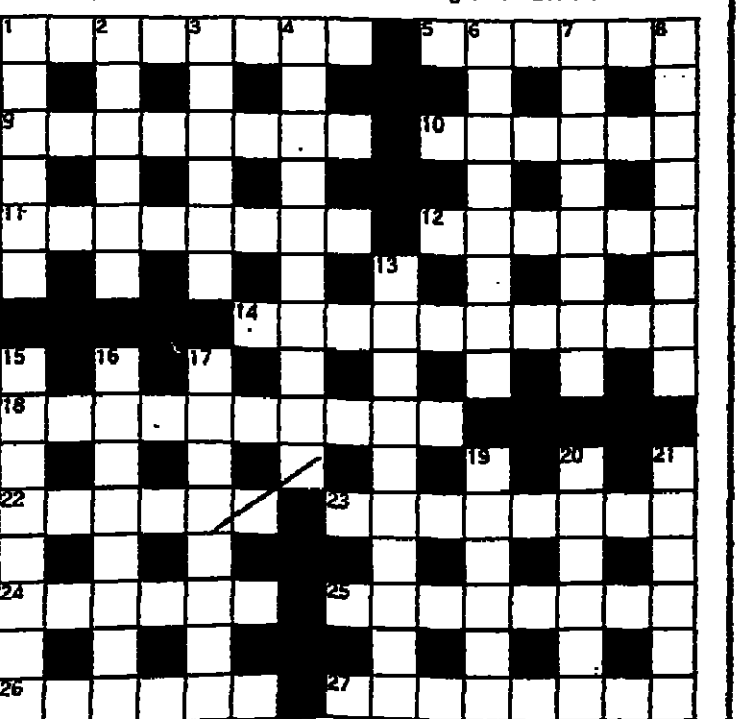
ONE-ON-ONE CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Shell getting transport moving quickly (8)
- 5 & 9 Maybe a ring in the air for Ruse Marie... (6,4,4)
- 10 ... a musical air, it should be stressed (6)
- 11 Ravishing stuff round North America (8)
- 12 Tax I associate with a poetic name North of the Border (6)
- 14 Decide against a holiday under canvas? (7,3)
- 18 Amazed by a knock-down offer, perhaps (6,4)
- 22 One to bank on for a story? (6)
- 23 Cacti is a possible source for complaint (8)
- 24 Way in which shouts of disapproval raises morale (6)
- 25 Like a dog-eat: that's flat! (3-5)
- 26 Order of celebration, being close to a fast time (6)
- 27 It follows in Latin (2,6)

DOWN

- 1 Take care of and pull round a flying lemming (6)
- 2 Rex is positive they're a wild lot socially (6)
- 3 & 4 Appropriate suitably small electronic device? (6,10)
- 6 Observing how gin and tonic blend (8)
- 7 Idleness induced (8)
- 8 Politically independent sort of patron in New York (3-5)
- 13 Not the sole impertinence of top people? (5,5)
- 15 Sailor aboard can be restrained (8)
- 16 Birds scattering some divided by wall (8)
- 17 Calm down again (8)
- 19 Indian tribe engaged in new form of physical education (11)
- 20 Paper taking time to publish (6)
- 21 She comes South and goes to Burlington House (11)



GENERAL ASSISTANCE

EMERGENCY PHARMACIES

Jerusalem: Kupat Holim Clalit, Romema, 523191; Baisem, Salah Eddin, 272315; Shu'afat, Shu'afat Road, 810108; Dar Al-Jawa, Herod's Gate, 282058. Tel Aviv: Shor Tabachnik, 54 King George, 280644; Kupat Holim Clalit, 7 Amsterdam, 225142. Netanya: Kupat Holim Clalit, 31 Brodetsky, 91172. Haifa: Hanassi, 33 Sderot Hanassi, 333312.

DUTY HOSPITALS

Jerusalem: Bikur Holim (pediatrics), Shaare Zedek (internal, obstetrics), Hadassah Ein Kerem (surgery, orthopedics, ophthalmology, ENT). Tel Aviv: Rosh (pediatrics), Ichilov (internal, surgery). Netanya: Laniado

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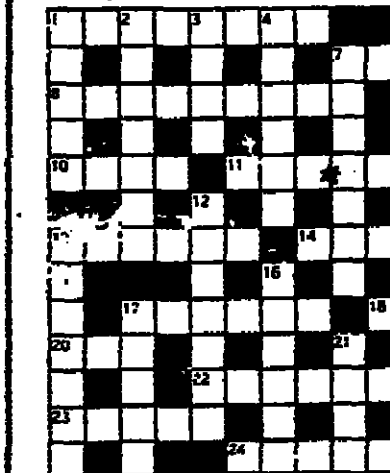
"Ezer" — Free Medical First Aid, Tel: Jerusalem 227171, Tel Aviv 2611112, Haifa 622222, Beersheba 418111, Netanya 36316. Rosh Cholim Center (24 hours), for help call Tel Aviv, 224518, Jerusalem 246554, and Haifa 88791. Jerusalem Institute for Drug Problems, Tel. 626222, 626222, 14 Schiller Rd. The National Poison Control Center, at Rambam Hospital, phone 04522205, for emergency calls, 24 hours a day, for information in case of poisoning. Kupat Holim Information Centre Tel. 03-433300, 433500 Sunday-Thursday, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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1 His paper (anag.) 10 Fruit



11 Fabric 12 Intelligent 13 Game bird 14 Large prawn 15 Enfold 16 Enemy 17 Bartered 18 Spirited horse 19 Not long ago

1 Gregarious animals 2 Confidential 3 Inheritor 4 Cause 5 Italian city 6 Str up 7 Cowboy film 8 Ruffed 9 Own up 10 Viper 11 Red Indian tribe 12 Cut 13 Growing tree 14 Love colour

In Haifa, it's rocks around the docks

By YA'ACOV FRIEDLER

Jerusalem Post Reporter
HAIFA. — The proverbial "coals to Newcastle" has developed a local twist: Stones to Israel.

As every Israeli knows, if there's one thing we've got plenty of, it's rocks. But now we are importing them.

Yesterday, unloading started in the port here of a "trial shipment" of 500 tons of hard, dolomite limestone from Turkey.

The Jerusalem Post learned the rocks were imported by the Caesarea Tiles factory of Kibbutz Sdot Yam, near Caesarea, which manufactures floor tiles. A management spokesman, evidently uncon-

fortable about the rocks, told *The Post* they were different than the softer, calcite limestone that Israel has so much of.

The Turkish version has scratch and acid resistant properties the factory had sought for a new product it intended for export only, mainly to the U.S. He refused to say any more about the product for commercial competition reasons.

He insisted that the imported rocks are dirt cheap, so to speak, and would not harm the country's trade balance, even if they are found suitable and will be ordered in larger quantities.

"In any case they are only a raw material for an export product" that

will comprise mainly domestic materials, he offered.

Meanwhile, a shipment of several thousand tons of imported rice was unloaded at the port by the crane and grab method, because the Dagon silo, which usually handles rice in addition to the imported grains, is full up.

"We are deploying our best equipment and operators to save the ship's demurrage fees," the Operations Chief, Gideon Shamir, told *The Post*.

Faced with bloated storage facilities, the Dagon grain silo's management was not in a position to take responsibility for the rice shipment.



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PINHAS LANDAU

The chronic illness

It has now become cliché to refer to the nurses' strike by shrugging helplessly and pleading, "what more is there to say?" The unfortunate answer is that the things to be said are the same ones as before, and if the strike is still on, then there is no choice but to say them over and over again. They were unpalatable to begin with and they remain so now. But they still have to be said.

There are various aspects to the discussion: The nurses must surely not be morally to blame for the deaths of numerous patients who have died for lack of treatment. The nurses have lost the widespread public sympathy that they started out with. The government has persuaded people that it has offered a lot and that the nurses' demands are unreasonable. Let's take all that as given, although it is by no means totally proven. The question is always, "so what?"

If the nurses now kneel under, or if they are forced back to work, or even if they are accepting whatever it is they are being offered, that does not change the fact that the dispute is about relative wages and that the public service is incapable of dealing with this underlying problem. The question of what nurses should be paid is quite distinct from that of how much the government can afford to give them. The government cannot pay too much because a) it hasn't got the money, and b) others will demand similar increases. Put this way, the collapse of the health services becomes a quite different issue from the one being presented by the two sides now.

It remains, in essence, a problem stemming from the employer's inability to pay different wages to different sectors — first by distinguishing between nurses and other groups, and then by making distinctions between groups of nurses. Do all nurses work as hard, in every department and in every hospital? Are not some areas more sought after and others less? And is it not the case that the Ministry of Health is too weak and ineffective to make and enforce these distinctions, as is the Finance Ministry to say that nurses are bound by different rules from administrative staff in ministry offices?

Because of the interlinking of groups of workers with little in common, the attempts to give bonuses of various sorts to nurses or others will not work. The nurses know it will fail. And by extension, because the health service is treated as one entity, nurses in Safed get the same as nurses in Jerusalem.

In theory, there should be no reason why even a centralized system should not be able to have a sufficient measure of decentralization to allow hospitals to pay different wages in different places for different jobs, in line with each one's specific needs. Each hospital could be made a self-contained entity, obliged to run itself and budget its activities, and to be controlled by the Health Ministry — perhaps with an additional level of administration in the form of the organization to which it belongs, whether Kapat Holim, Hadassah, or whatever. Then each one could decide to allocate a given percentage of its cake to wages, and further divide that between nurses, doctors, administrative and other groups, and possibly even pay staff in department A more than those in department B.

This is, of course, backdoor privatization, but it at least retains the fig-leaf of socialized medicine that most Israelis will desperately cling to. Those who don't believe it could work here are probably, if unfortunately, correct, and the outcome will be that those who don't want and will oppose privatization, will get the real thing in due course, after greater suffering all round.

If the nurses don't get what they think they need, for whatever reason, they will eventually leave. The market will push the nurses from Beilinson into jobs at Teva, or Tadiran, or the Petah Tikva municipality — wherever they think they are being paid for the effort or lack of it they invest in their work. But since society needs nurses more than these alternative jobs, the demand will re-emerge elsewhere in a different manner, and the same or other nurses will be employed by a different system that meets their market-driven demands. If it turns out that nurses are only worth NIS 1,000 a month, that's what they'll end up with, and those who think differently will leave the profession. If it transpires they are worth NIS 2,500 a month, because there are enough people with money to pay for good treatment, and others prepared to insure themselves on that basis, then the employer will have to give way, or be overthrown. Neither idealism nor forced compliance will determine the final outcome, only the mechanics of the labour market, however distorted they may be today.

Bruno tells bankers:

'Wages, staff must be cut'

By PINHAS LANDAU
Post Finance Reporter
TEL AVIV — Bank of Israel Governor Michael Bruno yesterday warned the heads of the commercial banking system that they had "only gone half the way in rationalizing their businesses."

Widespread firings were still to come, and the wages of the top executives would have to be cut if their efforts to impose wage restraint and staff cutbacks on their banks were to succeed, Bruno said in a major policy speech to the Association of Banks' annual general meeting at the Dan Panorama hotel here yesterday. He threatened direct intervention if the banks' directors did not face up to their responsibilities.

Bruno was critical of the wage accord Bank Leumi struck with its workers last week. He said the 3 per cent average wage hike was excessive and advised the other banks to drop their traditional practice of following Leumi's lead in wage matters.

However the governor coupled his stick with the carrot of central bank support for the banks' struggle to raise their charges, frozen since June 1985, and promised to press the Treasury to relieve some of the excess taxation levied exclusively on the financial-services sector.

Bruno reviewed the successes of the July 1985 economic stabilization programme, and stressed the need to act in those areas not yet tackled. In particular, he noted, reforms in taxation and the capital market "require simultaneous reductions of government spending and taxes. In these areas, which are critical for the effort to achieve structural change and to encourage growth, there have been only negligible achievements."

He went on to defend the recent hike in short-term interest rates, while stressing the beginning of capital market deregulation and the effect this would have on reducing longer-term rates and thereby encouraging investments.

But the bulk of Bruno's hard-hitting speech addressed the immediate concerns of his audience — the problems and prospects of the banking sector. He described the expansion of the banking system under the pressure of rising inflation and the demand for financial ser-



Michael Bruno (Rahamin Israeli)



Eli Hurvitz (Israel Sun)

over who were already engaged in making significant changes. The Bank of Israel, for its part, had also introduced several important new directions, and was working on a new banking law, while the capital market now in its early stages would have a major impact on the banks, Bruno said. Overall, they must seek to shrink rapidly in order to boost their profitability, and the authorities must, for their part, co-operate by giving up much of their domination of the banks' business.

But, in any event, Bruno conceded that there was no real chance of the government not having to make good its pledge to redeem the bank shares in the coming two years. In some of the plainest words on the subject yet to be heard from a senior official, Bruno virtually admitted that the terms of the bank share "arrangement" were far too generous to investors and represented a major burden on taxpayers.

Nevertheless, he underlined the fact that the government must meet those terms and said there were various possibilities under discussion as to how this would be done. At the same time, the government would make sure to avoid nationalizing the banks by taking actual control, even if it purchased the shares from the public.

Bruno's address was preceded by opening remarks — a speech in themselves — of the new president of the Association, Bank Leumi chairman Eli Hurvitz.

In some respects Hurvitz was even more frank and brutal than Bruno, noting that the "swollen" workforce of the banking sector as it had been in 1983, would have to be reduced by 30-40 per cent for the banks to be efficient in current conditions. He noted, too, that until 1983, the banks had concentrated on boosting their size, and only since then had the emphasis begun to switch to achieving profitability.

Regarding bank salaries, the focus of recent public debate, Hurvitz said they stemmed from the illusion of profit that had existed in the pre-1983 period. But, he went on, "it's impossible to correct what has already taken place, but today it no longer exists, nor will it in the future."

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Treasury wants to free more bank funds

By AVI TEMKIN
Post Economic Reporter
The Treasury plans to allow commercial banks to use up to 15 per cent of the funds deposited from saving schemes to grant free credits, in what officials said was a further implementation of the planned reform of the capital market.

The plan, if implemented, would reduce to half the portion of the funds they hold from clients' saving schemes required to be deposited at the Treasury. Currently the banks can use 35 per cent of their savings-scheme funds for investment in bonds of private firms. Only a few weeks ago the percentage was raised from 25 per cent.

The Treasury heads will hold a second round of talks today on the budget for the coming fiscal year. Today's meeting, convened by Finance Minister Moshe Nissim, will deal mainly with the proposed reforms in the tax system and the capital market.

Treasury sources said last night the prospects for the coming fiscal year continue to look gloomy. They said all available figures indicate there will be an urgent need to slash the budget by some NIS 400 million, on top of the NIS 350m. cut planned for this year. That would put the initial budget for next fiscal year some NIS 750m. below the one for fiscal year 1986/87.

"The truth is that we do not know where to cut, and without such a cut we know there is no way to close down the budget," one source said.

The sources said there were two main schools of thought in the Treasury's top echelons. The ministry's director-general, Emmanuel Sharon, has stressed that the extent of the planned changes in the capital market and the tax system should be limited by budget considerations. However, other senior officials, notably State Revenue Commissioner Yisrael Baron and Deputy Finance Minister Adi Amari, favour going ahead with the reforms even if the budget is not reduced by the desired amount.

Baron is due to present both alternatives at today's meeting, stressing that it would be possible to reform the tax system without lowering revenue. However, that would require alongside the reduction in tax rates that the Treasury abolish tax exemptions for various groups and sectors in the economy.

COMPANY RESULTS

Elion Hotel & Building Ltd.			
Construction	1986	1985	
Year to March 31			
Revenue	NIS 7.1m.	133,000	
Net income	379,000	(1,55m.)	

Zila Electrode Works Ltd.			
Electrode works	1986	1985	
Year to Sept. 30			
Revenue	NIS 4,600m.	10,51m.	
Net income	364,000	83,000	

Fuchsberger Industries Ltd.			
Electrical equipment	1986	1985	
Year to July 31			
Revenue	NIS 17.35m.	10,500m.	
Net income	473,000	877,000	

BUSINESS BRIEFS

'Govt' should end laws on disclosure

The law requiring companies that float shares to publish a prospectus disclosing full information about themselves should be revoked, Alan Schwartz, professor of law at the University of California told members of the Knesset Finance Committee in Jerusalem yesterday.

Investors want information about two subjects only: the risk of the placement and the return it is likely to yield. Companies that do not voluntarily satisfy these requirements will find no buyers, he said.

Disclosures became obligatory in the U.S. in 1934, but an examination of the situation before that time reveals that share-issuing companies used to make almost as much information available without compulsion, including independently audited accounts.

PHONE USERS COMPLAINTS about inflated bills are not being met adequately by Bezek, the state-run telecommunications company, members of the Knesset State Control Committee said this week.

Committee Chairman David Eilat and members from various factions agreed that an independent arbitrator should be appointed to settle disputes over bills.

TOURIST ARRIVALS TO ELAT are expected to jump 25 per cent in November from a year ago, with some 68 international flights bringing in 20,000 tourists, Elat mayor Rafi Hochman said yesterday.

Hochman was speaking at a press conference at the Avia Sonesta to mark the launching of direct flights between the city and Europe by El Al. The carrier's general manager, Rafi Harlev said El Al would carry some 20,000 passengers to Elat on 172 flights over the next year.

Tel Aviv Stock Exchange

MARKET STATISTICS

Indices:			
General Share Index	119.05	+0.51%	
Non-Bank Index	164.84	+0.33%	
Arrangement	103.95	+0.25%	
Insurance	178.18	+0.88%	
Commerce, Services	159.32	+0.60%	
Real Estate	186.27	+0.70%	
Industries	139.79	+0.57%	
Textiles	200.29	+1.33%	
Metals	144.60	+1.25%	
Electronics	95.57	+1.46%	
Chemicals	132.85	+0.24%	
Industrial Invest.	133.12	+0.86%	
Investment Cos.	147.57	+1.63%	
General Bond Index	112.40	+0.01%	
Index-linked Bonds	114.38	+0.04%	
Fully-linked	116.30	+0.15%	
Partially-linked	113.31	-0.11%	
Dollar-linked Bonds	111.72	+0.19%	
Short-term 0-2 yrs	111.01	UC	
Medium-term 2-5 yrs	111.77	+0.05%	
Long-term 5+ yrs	108.36	+0.09%	

SELECTED PRICE QUOTATIONS

Name	Price	Volume	%	Change
Commercial Banks				
Leumi	1775	1247		+2.0
Maritime	2279	4		—
General non-arr.	2279	4		—
First Int'l	3537	723		+1.0
IBI	4180	1808		—
Commercial Banks (part of "arrangement")				
IDB	79108	552		+0.2
Union 0.1	58200	108		+0.9
Discount	100700	138		+0.1
Mazda	32620	581		+0.4
Hapoelim	63810	804		+0.5
Mazda	137220	11		+0.1
Union 0.1	34195	958		+0.1
Fin. Trade	45370	10		+0.3
Mortgage Banks				
Leumi Mort.	5030	80		—
Dev. Mort.	2207	68		+1.9
Mishkan	2138	187		-0.5
Tel Aviv	14100	20		+0.7
Morav	5900	119		—
Financial Institutions				
Agri. Co.	no trading			
Ind. Dev. DO	no trading			
Ciel Leasing 0.1	17800	11		+1.9
Insurance				
Aravot 0.1	1140	805		-1.4
Hassanah	320	32191		+0.9
Phoenix 0.1	835	820		+5.7
Hemleham	7020	—		—
Menorah 1	2001	134		-2.0
Sahar	6380	582		-4.2
Zion Hold. 1	8470	—		+1.4
Trade & Services				
Meir Ezra	9453	278		+5.0
Supersol 2	1148	17		+1.7
Dolek	3225	889		+0.8
Lightage	15000	54		+1.6
Cold Storage	2100	48		-6.6
Dan Hotels	1880	127		+3.8
Varden Hotel	2820	222		-3.4
Hilon 1	24020	12		—
Tasim 1	1712	163		+1.0
Real Estate, Building and Agriculture				
Azorim	786	3437		+2.2
Africa Int. 0.1	518	12100		+1.2
Elia	36172	15		—
Denkner	4836	105		+2.0
Prop. & Bldg.	2730	2015		—
BaySide 0.1	4180	40		—
ILDC	53980	23		—
Rasor	no trading			
Mehadrin	7800	125		+1.5
Hadarim	1270	542		+2.0
Industrials				
Dubek b	3570	2125		-1.9
Pr-Ze 1	no trading			
Sumitro	9700	29		—
Elita	17000	113		-1.5
Adgar	610	8276		-1.5
Argaman	13800	189		+2.5
Delta G 1	2900	1475		+1.8
Maquette 1	5447	1923		+10.0
Eagle 1	13648	84		—
Polgar	3620	987		—
Schoellerma	14730	41		+4.2
Rogovin	3300	805		—
Urdan 0.1	7100	236		-4.7
Is. Can Co. 1	2414	2681		+1.7
Zion Cables	2945	893		+2.0
Peckar Steel	300	30		—
Elit	391000	12		+1.4
Investment Companies				
IDB Dev. r	4180	1001		+1.7
Elmor	3380	745		+1.5
Afik 1	234	1975		-2.5
Gehalet	1400	20		+1.4
Israel Corp. 1	8300	325		+2.5
Wolfson 1	122000	1		-0.8
Hapoelim Inv.	5750	284		—
General Invest.	no trading			
Discount Invest.	2405	1795		+1.9
Mizrahi Invest.	14050	50		-0.4
Ciel 10	850	5644		+1.3
Landeco 0.1	5325	261		—
Pama 0.1	8201	5		-0.5
Oil Exploration				
Paz Oil Expl.	18010	9		+0.1
J.O.E.L.	2840	718		—
Abbreviations:				
s.a. sellers only				
b.o. buyers only				
b. broker				
r. registered				

FINANCIAL DATA: ISRAEL, EUROPE, U.S.

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

SHEKEL INTEREST RATES
PRIME BORROWING RATE: 1.58% per month
Unlinked Deposit (Annual Rates)

	Last Updated	Tapas	Pakam 7-Day	Pakam 30-Day
LEUMI	28.10	7-17.50%	8-18.00%	8-18.25%
HAPOLIM	28.10	10-17%	11-17.50%	12-18.00%
DISCOUNT	17.10	8-16.50%	8-17%	14-18.00%
MIZRAH	8.5	8-16%	6-15%	6-17%
FIRST INT'L	17.10	10-17%	11-17.20%	13-19.50%

Rates vary according to size of deposit.
(Tapas: demand deposit paying daily interest.
Pakam: fixed-term deposit available from 7 to 58 days.)

PATAH — FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSIT RATES (October 29)

US\$ (\$100,000)	3-MONTHS	6-MONTHS	12-MONTHS
USD (\$100,000)	5.375	5.375	5.500
STG (10,000 pounds)	9.875	9.875	9.750
DMK (100,000 marks)	3.625	3.750	3.875
SFR (50,000 francs)	3.250	3.250	3.250
YEN (3,000,000 yen)	3.500	3.575	3.375

SHEKEL FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES (October 28)

		CHEQUES AND TRANSFERS		BANKNOTES		Rep. Rates
		Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	
Currency basket	1	1.4800	1.4800	—	—	1.4809
U.S.A. Dollar	1	1.4758	1.4758	1.45	1.52	1.4905
Deutschmark	1	0.7305	0.7396	0.72	0.75	0.7356
Pound Sterling	1	2.0824	2.1185	2.05	2.14	2.1076
French Franc	1	0.2224	0.2262	0.22	0.23	0.2260
Japanese Yen	100	0.9255	0.9370	0.91	0.95	0.9330
Dutch Florin	1	0.6489	0.6540	0.63	0.66	0.6509
Swiss Franc	1	0.8853	0.8983	0.87	0.91	0.8910
Swedish Krone	1	0.2132	0.2158	0.21	0.22	0.2147
Norwegian Krone	1	0.1994	0.2019	0.20	0.21	0.2008
Danish Krone	1	0.1941	0.1965	0.19	0.20	0.1954
Finnish Mark	1	0.2996	0.3033	0.29	0.31	0.3018
Canadian Dollar	1	1.0655	1.0666	1.05	1.10	1.0757
Australian Dollar	1	0.9508	0.9526	0.90	0.99	0.9588
S. African Rand	1	0.6511	0.6592	0.42	0.60	0.6558
Belgian Franc	10	0.3490	0.3523	0.34	0.36	0.3543
Austrian Shilling	10	1.0375	1.0405	1.02	1.07	1.0455
Italian Lira	1000	1.0552	1.0594	1.04	1.09	1.0643
Jordanian Dinar	1	—	—	4.10	4.36	4.2230
Egyptian Pound	1	—	—	0.77	0.80	0.8011
ECU	1	1.5220	1.5409	—	—	1.5336

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Back from the brink

FROM the beginning, this newspaper, in this column, voiced support for the claims of the hospital nurses.

They are right, we said, to demand higher pay and better working conditions. They must not reach for the moon, but the Treasury, for its part, should not refuse to negotiate with the nurses in good faith by mechanically citing the need to hold the wage line.

But yesterday, after periodically forsaking patients and causing much suffering, the nurses decided to quit all hospitals for 24 hours. And if not satisfied, they would do it again, and again.

Such indifference to human misery, such scorn for the ethic of their profession, could only be branded for what it is — contemptible. If pursued it would extinguish whatever good will could be mustered anywhere for the nurses' case. For even a good cause becomes evil by use of evil means.

What was it that prompted the nurses to engage in a total walkout? The Treasury's latest offer could hardly be described — as the nurses termed an earlier one — as amounting to "nothing." The nurses' spokesperson said the proposal was too "foggy."

Was it then to dispel the fog that patients' lives were put in jeopardy yesterday?

When the prospect of more avoidable deaths resulting from their walkout did not deter the nurses' leaders, the government had no choice but to seek a court injunction against the strike. For at stake now was not the future of the country's nursing profession, but the society's responsibility for the sick and dying. No society, with any pretension to civilized order, can permit its infirm to wilful and deliberate chaos and suffering.

Just at this snapping point, President Herzog yesterday intervened with an appeal to the nurses' conscience and the moral imperatives of their calling. And, at the brink, they responded.

Let it be hoped that this dramatic rescue from catastrophe will motivate the nurses and the Treasury to lock themselves into the negotiations which the President urged on both sides until they emerge with an agreement.

And let it also be hoped that the nurses and their leaders came to realize that they had gone too far. That the public sympathy they were able to elicit until now would not be sustained for the extremism to which they had succumbed. And that without such sympathy they would lose not only the battle, but also the war, leaving their profession and their professional lives in shambles.

Levy's cynical meddling

INTERVENTION of a wholly different kind from President Herzog's in the nurses strike is the cynical veto by Housing Minister David Levy of the Hebrew University's decision to raise student dormitory fees.

The university, snared in a grave financial crisis, requires this increase to save it another \$1 million of deficit. And what it needs is a modest additional sum from each dormitory student.

But the student leaders, evidently understanding well the calculations of politicians which they could use to their advantage turned to the suitable address — Mr. Levy.

Better known for his facility in political arithmetic than his interest in the country's institutions of higher learning, the Housing Minister wielded his authority to score some points with the students. Let the university squirm in its mess.

That it is a mess, is beyond doubt. And that those responsible for it have not yet been brought to account is also the case.

But the radical reform of the Hebrew University's house-keeping which is now necessary cannot be carried out if meddling politicians respond, for reasons irrelevant to the university's needs, to every appeal by the constituent interest groups which compose the university's population.

POSTSCRIPTS

P.S. SOPRANO Eva Marton, recently had to sing the big aria of *Tosca* with a dislocated jaw after a run-in with a lusty baritone.

"She's a real trouper. She sang beautifully," New York's Metropolitan Opera spokeswoman Johanna Fiedler commented.

The incident happened as Hungarian-born Marton tussled with baritone Juan Pons, who was playing the villainous Baron Scarpia. Fiedler said.

"We don't know exactly when she injured her jaw," the spokeswoman said. "She may have hit her head on a piece of furniture or he may have hit her accidentally."

"It's hard to tell when the adrenaline is flowing. All we know is that her jaw just started to ache."

Fiedler said Marton was hurt in Act Two, just before her aria, *Vissi d'Arte*, which is sung lying on the stage.

The tradition of singing "Vissi d'Arte" from a prone position dates from shortly before World War I when a singer tripped on her gown at a dress rehearsal and fell to the stage in a production supervised by composer Giacomo Puccini.

The conductor had already begun the music, so the singer carried on without missing a beat. Afterwards, Puccini praised the accident as an inspired idea.

P.S. THE HORDES of telephone subscribers obliged to waste hours of work time waiting their turn to straighten out bills at Bezek's Jerusalem office were amused recently to see the sole clerk there wearing a T-shirt with the inscription "Time Is Money."

S.O.

KNESSET

(Continued from Page One)

country was not going to be led back to that, he said.

A key aspect of the problem, he said, was that the vast majority of nurses were not employed in full-time positions. The government was seeking to rectify this by offering incentive payments and cutting the work week.

The government's proposal, he said, was that nurses be paid NIS 1,547 on an average, as of next month, rising to NIS 1,625 next April.

This was far more than granted to

any other comparable sector.

The government, Nissim said, did see itself as responsible for what was happening. And precisely because of this, it would not budge further, because it had overall responsibility for the economy.

He said that the government would take every step it could, and that he had the backing of Premier Shamir and Vice Premier Peres. (It later emerged that Nissim did not mean to imply that the government would issue back-to-work orders, which it has refused to do through-out the strike.)

HOPES

(Continued from Page One)

bad news for farmers who faced rationing and price increases last year, following the dry winter. But Uri Marinov, head of the Environmental Protection Service, warned yesterday that clear skies could herald trouble for everyone.

He said: "If these predictions prove true then we are in big trouble. We will have to cut down even more than last year and that means in the towns too."

Every drop of water is precious in the present circumstances, said Marinov.

But, he complained, some cities waste large amounts every day because their water supply systems are in need of repair or even replacement.

He went on: "We must be prepared to spend a lot more on maintaining water systems. If we have a dry winter, leaking pipes are going to cost us."

A hard look at apartheid

Joe Franklin

VARIOUS STATEMENTS of opinion have recently appeared in *The Jerusalem Post* voicing opposition to sanctions against South African apartheid. These articles — by Eliahu Linkin (Israel's former ambassador to Pretoria, October 10) and others — contained faulty logic and factual errors which require correction.

Some of these arguments on apartheid, and appropriate responses, follow.

• *Afrikaner South Africa was established on virgin soil. There was no native population or black majority. Hence white settlement never represented colonialism.*

This is an egregious misstatement, particularly when made by a former ambassador whose tenure should have permitted him an acquaintance with local history. In fact, settlement south of the Limpopo river extends from early human history.

The *Khoikhoi* (Hottentots) and *San* (Bushmen) resisted the white settlers of the Cape, but endured defeat, disease, and social disintegration. The mixed-race Cape coloured people represent in part their descendants.

The myth of South Africa as a virgin, unpeopled land is contradicted by abundant archeological and historical evidence. There has never been anything but a black majority. As argument, this myth is akin to the early Zionist slogan, "A land without a people for a people without a land," which today stands as a measure of deliberate ignorance.

It cannot be disputed that the Afrikaners have sunk deep and inalienable roots since their arrival in 1652. But their claim of first arrival is fictitious, and would bear little contemporary relevance in any case.

• *South Africa's critics employ a double standard by which apartheid is flayed while the sins of the Soviet Union, African countries, and the Third World go unmentioned.*

There are, unfortunately, only a limited number of social injustices that can be addressed within a 24-hour day.

The oppression and murder of Indians in Brazil is of no less human importance than that of blacks in Soweto — or the strangulation of Jewish culture in the USSR. Both Ida Nudel and Nelson Mandela have bravely demanded freedom from the latter-day Pharaohs. To sign a petition calling for the release of either or both is to recognize their ultimate common cause, to demand an act of human liberation.

Shifts in geography or governance do not diminish the centrality of human rights and dignity, and South Africa's leading critics have little cause to fear charges that they fail a test of universalism. One wonders, rather, whether those who employ the "double standards" accusation do not have "double vision" themselves — positively-viewed white world versus negatively-viewed black one.

• *Given the massacres in recent African history — in Biafra, Ethiopia, Uganda and Zimbabwe — a defeated white minority can expect the same under black government.*

No doubt there are black extremists and anti-white racists who, whether for revenge or the establishment of a new political order, would wish to physically eliminate the white community. A current of anti-white hatred is clearly identifiable in statements emanating from the black townships, especially on the part of the younger generation.

The causality does not concern Ambassador Linkin or the apologists of apartheid. Rather, this line of argument plays to white tribal fears and suggests that present oppression may be maintained and justified thereby.

These fears are stoked by the South African government's portrayal of black-consciousness doctrines — which argue that racial polarization is a necessary function of the struggle for unity in the face of apartheid — as black racial exclusiveness. There will be no place left for whites, according to Pretoria.

THE ENFRANCHISEMENT of each citizen on an equal basis has become an irreducible demand of the black

THE LEADING organization of resistance, the African National Congress, has had a multi-racial character since its founding in 1912. It has always sought joint action with the white community, in policy and practice. Even the radical black consciousness that arose in the late 1960s, exemplified by Steve Biko, never excluded whites from its vision of South Africa's future. An apparently overwhelming majority of blacks, coloureds and Indians subscribe to a belief in a multi-racial society founded on civic equality.

If there is any bloodletting after a white-black power swap, then it will most likely be motivated by political power struggles within the African community. The conflicts of Zimbabwe's unhappy recent history, which have a tribal origin, provide a proximate model for this possibility. While the sins of intra-black genocide are absolute, Western memory of European bloodletting against Africans seems entirely relative. Military historian Daniel Ben-Ya'akov (*Post*, October 9) employed selective recall in depicting an entire continent as obsessed with massacre, thus justifying a firm white hand in the south.

He neglected to mention the death of approximately 250,000 civilians (this is the French figure, Algerians set it at 2 million) in the last troubled years of French colonial rule. Or to take an earlier example, Kitchener's genocidal march on Khartoum. Indeed, the slaughter of tens of millions of European whites by European whites over the past century makes African efforts seem feeble and skews any ethical comparison by race.

• *Look at the black mobs burning people to death with "necklaces," tires doused with petrol and set alight. Are these the people who will exercise "majority rule?" We can see what kind of rule to expect.*

It's pretty ghastly film footage, isn't it? Camera crews simply were not available, however, when the American mobs of 1776 applied tar and feathers to British officers (the pitch was scalding and few lived, contrary to Hollywood's version).

• *While the sins of intra-black genocide are absolute, Western memory of European blood-letting against Africans seems entirely relative.*

Black mobs in South Africa today are proving only that their brutality is every bit equal to that of white mobs, and all such repugnant acts are to be condemned.

Revolutions — and that is what the South African situation encompasses — have always proceeded in the company of crowds, civic terror and public murder. History indicates that mob rule itself is ephemeral; the real spectre lies in authoritarianism rising from the trail of mobs and their destruction.

• *One person, one vote democracy will not work in South Africa. It is a formula for white political suicide that can never be accepted, not even by liberal whites.*

Whether some egalitarian federal solution might have successfully headed off the present crisis if implemented decades ago is a moot discussion. The South African government has repeatedly attempted to defraud democratic institutions through the creation of fictitious, and powerless legislatures for coloureds and Indians. The concern for a workable democracy, it seems, centres on whites alone.

The enfranchisement of each citizen on an equal basis has become an irreducible demand of the black

opposition. The goal of South African blacks is clear: power, and power in abundance. Since social power is finite, even if nearly unquantifiable, the dominant white population would have to surrender or be painfully stripped of vast political and economic power resources.

Blacks view these resources as illegitimate gain, social theft endorsed by white-supremacist racism. The introduction of democracy will assuredly bring a very hard fall for South African whites.

There is, it would appear, a way to take an even harder fall — a continuation of Botha's unresponsive policies, a continued denial of electoral rights to blacks, and an intensification of black-white violence. If there are dangers and risks in democracy, the choice of this, the rejectionist route, would seem to foretell even worse certainties.

LET US grant that the South African military and security services have ample wherewithal to guarantee the suppression of the black majority's challenge. What South Africa's white regime does not possess is the demographic wherewithal.

According to 1980 census figures (adjusted to include the "independent" homelands of Transkei, Bophuthatswana and Venda, which were excluded from the count), out of a population of 22.7 million, there were 18.8m. blacks (71.5 per cent), 4.5m. whites (16.2 per cent), 2.6m. coloureds (9.4 per cent), and 800,000 Asians (2.9 per cent).

Based on a government estimate of the different birthrates among these groups, the proportion of whites will fall to 13.7 per cent by the year 2000. Because the official figure underestimates blacks and omits "illegal" black residents in "white" areas, whites will probably represent less than 1 in 10 South Africans by the turn of the century. Sooner or later, demography says that something has to give.

An end to white domination, whether in a few years, 20 years or 40 years, is visible to all who care to look. Beyond a governmental discovery of morality, this realization does much to explain the belated hastening of several Western countries to apply sanctions and register themselves as friends of the emerging new black political order. If political suicide is to be sought in this environment, it lies in denying the future's reality and advocating anti-democratic solutions of the past.

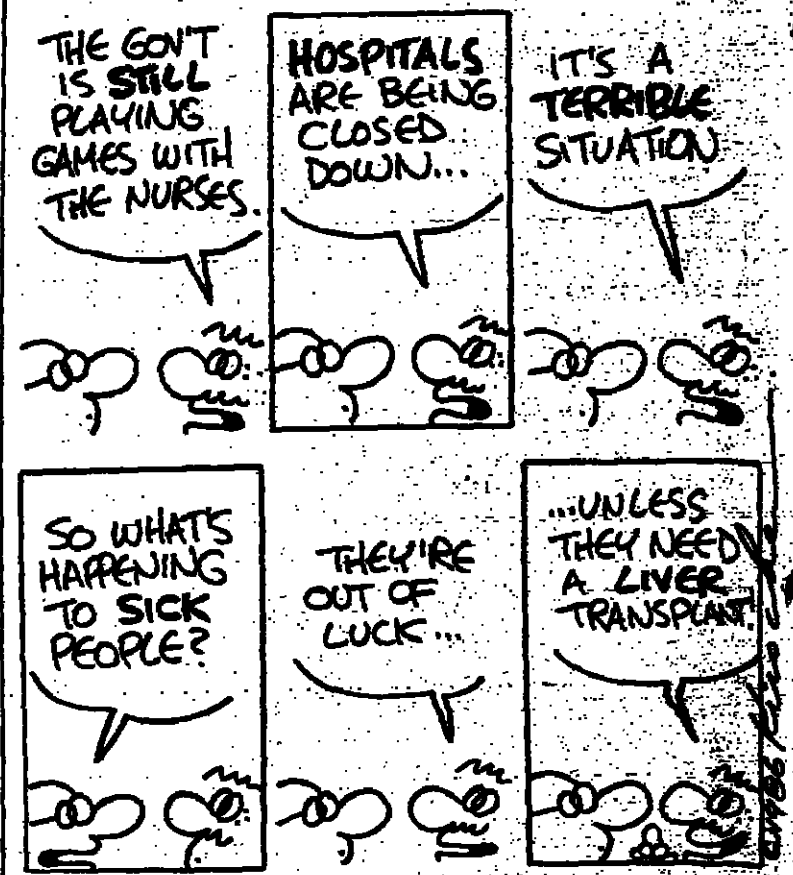
• *South African blacks have made substantial economic gains and a new black middle class has emerged. Blacks enjoy better public services than in any other African country. Sanctions or armed rebellion will destroy such achievements and impoverish the intended black beneficiaries.*

The South African economy is characterized in one Ford Foundation report as a dual economy, split between an urban industrial sector and a rural subsistence sector, with enormous difference between black and white income levels and living standards. The appearance of a thin black middle class cannot disguise the 10-to-1 gap between white and black per capita income. While blacks comprise three-quarters of South Africa's labour force, they account for a mere quarter of the nation's wage bill.

The economic outcomes of racial inequality continue to be reinforced by government policies. One particularly unperceptive paper delivered in Jerusalem by a visiting South African academic observed that privatization was being introduced there in the areas of housing, health, education and pensions because "the state has had to admit defeat in providing single-handedly for the needs of a growing population."

Privatization thus appears to represent a new ideological approach to freeing common economic conditions and public services in an environment where the state's desire to

Dry Bones



achieve success is clearly correlated with race.

According to latest available data from the South African Institute of Race Relations, infant mortality figures per 1,000 live births are 12 white, 64 urban blacks, and 240 rural blacks.

Stunning 10-to-1 ratios between black and white appear repeatedly in a range of statistical sets. For example, the difference in mortality rates for black and white infants aged 1-4 or the differences in per capita government expenditures on education for white and black children. These figures are indicators of the conditions of oppression, not of a beneficent social system.

'A truly pragmatic, let alone wise or ethical, foreign policy, would not let this country continue to stumble into avoidable traps'

ECONOMIC BENEFITS are equated with social passivity only by those with a vested interest in deluding themselves. Improved salary slips or economic advances do not represent the slightest compensation for the deprivation of civil rights.

In Israel, this argument is sometimes encountered in the statement, "On the West Bank in 1967, you could count the tractors on two hands. Today there are thousands!" A tractor per dunam would not convince Palestinians in the least of the merits of Israel's military administration. Neither will modest handouts quiet the turbulence of South Africa's black community.

Trade embargoes and disinvestment represent a mild response under such circumstances. The black South African leadership appears to have coalesced in demanding Western sanctions as a minimum step, despite the fact that the black public will bear the effects. Israel can do no less than join others in heeding a cry for justice.

• *'Nobody likes apartheid, but....'* Criticism of sanctions has a virtual chorus refrain: "Apartheid is despicable, but...." or "I personally hate racial discrimination, but...." What concrete proposals do they have to counter apartheid, beyond insipid suggestions to let South Africa's white rulers find their own interminable way towards racial progress or ambiguous appeals for conflict resolution through the exercise of wisdom? These are all prescriptions for stall and stagnation, without any charge of immediacy.

• *Israel has no conflict with South Africa, which has been friendly towards us and is a trading partner. We cannot impose sanctions because Israel has a special consideration, the well-being of the Jewish community there — and they don't want sanctions.* Besides, Arab countries have been profiting for years by selling oil quietly to South Africa, so why should we be holier than they?

The South Africa-Israel friendship that emerged in the course of the 1970s has done Israel enormous harm. Instead of adopting a stance that would distance Israel from an international pariah, successive governments strengthened the relationship.

In 1976 the two countries signed a set of trade agreements. The oft-stated official rejections of racial discrimination, including apartheid, were continually betrayed by the visible realities of burgeoning commercial ties.

THE WARMING relations provided the framers of the 1975 "Zionism is racism" UN resolution with a form of evidence for their equation

of Zionism and apartheid. Israel played the role designed for it and alienated significant sectors in Africa, Europe and America. Entirely forgotten was Israel's staunch opposition to apartheid during the 1950s and 1960s, even to the point where it once offered funding for the organization of African Unity in support of liberation movements.

Two arguments are often advanced in Israel's defence. First, that Israel is a relatively minor trading partner with South Africa and its interests are entirely dwarfed by those of the EEC countries, the U.S. and Japan. A second argument, lately invigorated by UN Ambassador Benjamin Netanyahu, points out that those Arab nations that have lashed Israel for relations with South Africa have themselves conducted a major, secret and (we assume) highly profitable oil trade in the same direction.

Both rationalizations are of the same construct and are specious diversions from the issue. Each points to the observed behaviour of other parties to avoid consideration of their own actions.

The South African Jewish community, as a collective body, has participated in and profited from the corrupt structures of apartheid. Their reported standard of living seems sufficient testimony to the economic opportunities afforded to those with the proper skin colour and ethical blinders.

The Jewish state has no stake in the maintenance of South African Jewry's privileged position. Its sole interest should be in promoting the welfare of the Jewish community through the practice of Zionism and aliyah.

If Israel continues its current policy, the black community will remember that Israel increased its trade when other nations had begun to desist from trading, that Israeli entrepreneurs were among the first investors to exploit the homelands, and most especially that Israel supplied the weapons pointed at them. Israel is stuck to the tar baby of apartheid.

When the country named Azania eventually emerges, Israel will probably find its standing equal to the miserable position it occupies today in Nicaragua, where a hostile populace remembers that a few years ago Israel was a leading arms supplier to the Somoza dictatorship. A truly pragmatic, let alone wise or ethical foreign policy would not let this country continue to stumble into such avoidable traps.

• *Finally, we could do with fewer critics prescribing simple answers to South Africa's complex problems. Aside from the very few who have been on short visits, most have the temerity to judge without ever having seen the country. South Africa's problems will be solved by its own people, not outsiders.*

This is really the last line of defence, for it proposes that direct experiential knowledge is the only grounding for informed opinion. Were it so, only travel editors would be allowed to write newspaper editorials on foreign topics.

I have never visited South Africa. Few of us have ever visited Libya, Chile, Afghanistan or Northern Ireland, all places worthy of a well-formulated opinion. Yet an aware participation in the world obliges us to search out an understanding of international controversy and explore the means to its resolution.

South Africa's admittedly complex problems will indeed be solved by its own people, for in the final analysis there is no one else to do it. The function of the international community, a role with which it has at last begun to come to terms, is to support the seekers of justice.

Sanctions against apartheid represent a fulfillment of the Jewish tradition expressed in *Tzedek tzedek yidof* — the pursuit of justice through just means.

The writer is on the staff of a social research institute in Jerusalem.

READERS' LETTERS

SHAME ON THE NURSES

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post* Sir, — Shame on the nurses for abandoning the sick for money. I have been a volunteer in Ya'el for 10 years. Today, when the nurses are striking, I must sit at home because I am too sick to be at my post in the emergency room and my conscience burns me. Where is the conscience of the nurses? Nursing is a calling, not just a job.

I have seen how hard and devoted nurses were. It is fair to assume that, when they chose nursing as a profession, they wanted to be healers, not make money. If there are not enough student nurses today, it is because the nation has lost its idealism.

It is time for the nurses to return to their posts while carrying on negotiations with patience. They must not abandon the sick and the helpless.

RUTH LEVITT
Bat Yam.

PENFRIENDS

DESIREE BENDER (24), c/o TELCO Ltd., Bombay House, 24 Homi Mody Street, Fort, Bombay 400001 India, is a graduate in economics and sociology who would like to correspond with an Israeli in order to learn Hebrew.

WILLIAMS COLLEGE

ment ceremony: Edgar M. Bronfman (Williams College, class of 1930) and Cynthia Ozick.

Similarly, of 11 books written by alumni or faculty of the college listed in a recent issue of the alumni journal, the titles of two are: *Going to America, Going to School: The Jewish Immigrant-Public School Encounter in Turn-of-the-Century New York City*, by Stephen F. Brunsberg, and *Basic Judaism for Young People*, by Naomi Pasachoff.

IAN G. FIERSTEIN
(Williams College, class of 1971)
Jerusalem.

ZEBRA CROSSINGS

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post* Sir, — I have just returned from a five-year stay in London and I find myself in somewhat of a quandary when driving in Jerusalem. I tend to stop at pedestrian crossings to allow people to cross the road, only to find, to my amazement, that other drivers simply overtake me, regardless of the purpose of my stopping.

I realize the potential dangers in this situation, and would hate to be inadvertently responsible for what could be a horrific accident. I therefore wonder if I am to continue in my practice or ignore those pedestrians as do so many other drivers?

MRS. D. RUBINSTEIN
Jerusalem.

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